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The Reagan style in the Middle East, page 10

Dr Kissinger calls for US forces in Mid-East

Dr Kissinger said in Jerusalem yesterday that American air and naval forces and specialized ground units were urgently needed in the Middle East to counter the Soviet threat. Dismissing the recent EEC peace initiative as impracticable, he said he had no intention of meeting any Palestinians on this or other trips.

European initiative on Palestinians rejected

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem, Jan 6

Dr Henry Kissinger, the former Secretary of State, returned to the centre of the Middle East stage today with a scathing attack on the concept and content of the proposed European initiative for a comprehensive settlement in the region.

At a crowded press conference which demonstrated local scepticism about the ostensibly "private" nature of his five-nation Middle East tour, Dr Kissinger also spoke of the urgent need to counter the Soviet threat by stepping up America's military presence in the area.

Considerable diplomatic attention was paid to his remarks, which were seen as the firmest indication yet of the Middle East policy to be pursued by Mr Ronald Reagan when he takes over the Presidency of the United States on January 20.

Although Dr Kissinger repeatedly referred to the non-official character of his tour, it is known that he will be reporting directly to senior figures in the new Administration on his return to Washington.

Referring to the proposed EEC initiative, Dr Kissinger criticized the idea of two separate approaches being adopted to the Middle East crisis. He said that without prior coordination between Europe and America, there was a danger that both would be played off against each other by Israelis and Arabs.

The former Secretary of State then attacked the specifics of the EEC plan, claiming that it was based on the false premise that the setting up of a Palestinian state would lead to the disappearance of the Middle East problem. This was incorrect, because many aspects [illegible] the problem were separable [illegible] the Arab-Israeli negotia-

[illegible]ting the resentment [illegible] both the Reagan and [illegible]mps at recent attempts by [illegible] European Community to act on its own initiative in the Middle East, Dr Kissinger said: "I do not see how we can go on indefinitely insisting on united defence and separate foreign policies."

Looking unashamedly pleased to be back behind the microphones, fielding a barrage of questions about the complex strategic options in the Middle East, Dr Kissinger then made his strongest statement in support of an immediate stepping up of American military strength in the region.

He claimed that American air and naval forces and specialized ground units were needed to counter the large Soviet presence in Afghanistan, the presence of 18,000 Soviet-commanded Cubans in Ethiopia and a Moscow-backed Libyan military operation in Chad.

Although not naming specific locations (but ruling out the possibility of America taking over the Etzion air base in occupied Sinai) Dr Kissinger said that a visible presence should be put into those facilities on the perimeter of the Middle East already negotiated by the Carter Administration. He dismissed the usefulness of a rapid deployment force based "8,000 miles away".

Dr Kissinger said that similar views had already been put forward by Mr Reagan and added that he would be "strongly supporting them" on his return to Washington. American observers took the remarks as an indication that significant changes in American military tactics would soon be forthcoming.

Questioned about possible Soviet reaction to such a build-up, Dr Kissinger claimed that Russia could not do more than had already been carried out in Afghanistan and elsewhere. "We cannot refrain from doing what is necessary because we are mesmerized by the illusion that the Russians can do anything they want, and we can do nothing."

Referring to the faltering Camp David peace process, Dr Kissinger admitted that he had modified his original emphasis on the so-called "Jordanian option", but still spoke of the need to bring Jordan into the negotiations.

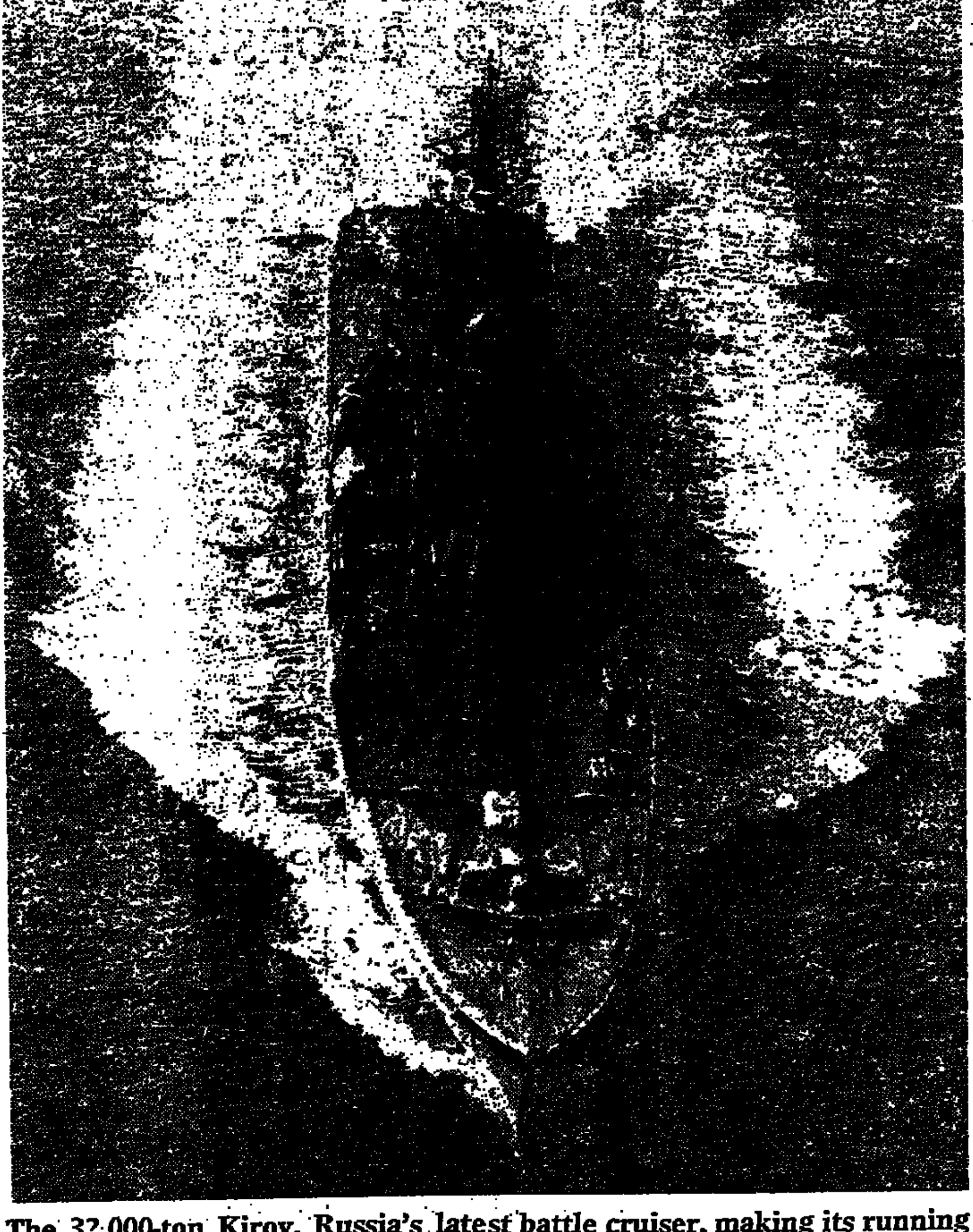
His admission was seen as evidence of President Sadat's success last week in pressing home his strong opposition to any early attempts to bring King Husain of Jordan into the peace talks.

"I have gained a clearer understanding than I had before of the role that Egypt feels it has the duty to play in the Palestinian autonomy talks", Dr Kissinger said.

Jewish settlements in the occupied territories, he said, would be both a problem in the autonomy talks and "a major obstacle" to achieve a comprehensive settlement.

He spoke of increased optimism that a successful conclusion to the Camp David process could be reached, but gave no substance for his claim. He said he had seen no Palestinians during his Middle East trip, and had no intention of seeing any "on any other trip I am planning".

Reagan Cabinet-making, page 5
Middle East policy, page 10
Leading article, page 11



The 32,000-ton Kirov, Russia's latest battle cruiser, making its running trials in the Baltic Sea. The Kirov is the largest warship, apart from aircraft carriers, to be built by any country for 30 years.

Strike threat by water and sewerage staff as pay talks collapse

By David Felton
Labour Reporter

Britain faces a national strike by water and sewerage workers next month. Pay talks in London broke down yesterday after only 30 minutes.

Union negotiators said they were "flabbergasted" by the employers' refusal to increase their 7.9 per cent pay offer, and they are to seek the backing of staff in the industry for strike action.

Mr Edmund Newall, national officer of the General and Municipal Workers Union and leader of the union negotiating team, said: "I don't think we have ever been closer to a national strike."

The four unions, representing 32,000 workers in England and Wales, will consult their members with a recommendation that "no further progress is possible by negotiattion and that the only alternative is industrial action". The union negotiators will also recommend their executives to sanction a strike.

Although employees in Scotland and Northern Ireland are not covered by yesterday's abortive negotiations their pay agreements closely follow those made with the National Water Council, and union officials said that they expected water and sewerage workers throughout Britain to take action.

The Government has drawn up contingency plans for dealing with a water workers' strike, which could quickly have serious consequences, and Sir Robert Marshall, chairman of the National Water Council, said he had been examining the council's own contingency measures.

He said he could not discount the intervention of an "outside agency" if there was a strike, and it is known that the Government's plans include the use of troops to maintain emergency supplies.

The unions arrived at yesterday's talks expecting the council to improve its initial offer, made before Christmas, and they were genuinely surprised when told by Sir Robert that the 7.9 per cent offer would not be increased in any circumstances.

Mr Newall said: "All of us on the trade union side have been more than flabbergasted by this negative attitude the employers have adopted. It seems to us that they are trying to provoke our membership into taking some form of extreme action. They want to see whether we are bluffing."

The unions believe the employees will support industrial action and they expect consultation to be completed by the end of this month. At a further meeting with the employers on February 3 the unions will relay the views of their memberships, but it was clear from Sir Robert's statements that even if there is a vote to strike, the offer will not be increased.

Judging by the entrenched positions of the two sides, relations in the industry could start to deteriorate quickly and there is a possibility that unofficial action could be started, particularly in some of the more militant areas in the north of England.

Mr Ronald Keating, assistant general secretary of the National Union of Public Employees, made clear that the unions would make industrial action as effective as possible. "We are going to put the heat on. We are not fighting with

Continued on page 2, col 1

US space shuttle to test laser weapons

From Christopher Hanson
Reuter Correspondent
Washington, Jan 6

An early mission for the United States space shuttle will be testing an aiming device for a space-based laser weapon that could be used to destroy Soviet nuclear missiles, sources close to the project said today.

Under a project code named "Talon Gold", the shuttle—a reusable space ship—will test a "pointing and tracking" system vital for the development of laser weapons in space.

The laser test is only one example of the military role for the shuttle, scheduled to make its first flight in March, informed congressional sources said.

The Defence Department wants to speed up research and development on space lasers after concluding that the Soviet Union is striving to perfect such weapons.

Congressional sources said President-elect Ronald Reagan's defence aides wanted even quicker deployment of the lasers. The sources said lasers appealed to Mr Reagan because they would give defence against a Soviet attack designed to knock out United States nuclear missiles before they get off the ground.

Tests on a "pointing and tracking" system were vital, according to technical literature on the subject, because the space-based laser must be able to attack missiles hundreds or thousands of miles distant. The laser ray would in theory bore a hole into a missile's hull, causing it to disintegrate in flight.

The Russians and the Americans are already testing laser weapons in the earth's atmosphere, according to government officials. But United States specialists were recently ordered to focus on laser deployment in space.

Some defence analysts believe that later versions of the stubby-winged shuttle, roughly the size of a DC9 airliner, will be armed with laser weapons to enable them to attack satellites or to engage in space battle.

The shuttle could also be used to construct laser-armed space battle platforms to protect satellites from enemy attack.

The Pentagon denies that the shuttle would be used against Soviet satellites.

Some defence analysts are worried that laser deployment could result in an attack on a surveillance satellite being misread as the prelude to a nuclear missile attack and lead to an all-out nuclear war.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa) officials are also concerned that the military is anxious to wrest control of the shuttle from the civilian administration.

Nasa sources said they were concerned at recent statements by defence officials criticizing Nasa for delays in the shuttle launch and suggestions that another government body should take over the shuttle.

The first space shuttle was removed from its storage hangar last week and moved to a launch pad at Cape Canaveral, Florida.

It is scheduled to blast into space with the aid of booster rockets, and reenter the earth's atmosphere piloted by astronauts who will land it on a runway.

Factory price rises lowest since 1970s

By Melvyn Westlake

Further evidence of a sharp decline in the rate of inflation came yesterday with figures for December showing the smallest rise in the price of goods leaving Britain's factories than in any month since at least the middle 1970s.

A second boost for the Government came with the Bank of England's provisional estimates on money supply. These showed that the broad measure, M3 rose about ¼ per cent in the December banking month. This is one of the smallest rises seen last year and compares with an increase during the summer surge in money growth of 8 per cent in two months.

The only shadow over yesterday's otherwise good financial and economic news came with separate figures showing that the cost of industry's raw materials and fuel is now rising again after falling steadily for some months.

However, wholesale prices rose by just a ¼ per cent in December, and by only 1 per cent in the last three months, according to figures published yesterday by the Department of Industry. The year-on-year increase also fell further, to stand at 12¾ per cent, compared with 13½ per cent in November and a peak of over 19 per cent last March.

Although factory-gate prices are not a perfect guide to the future level of prices in the shops—excluding, for example, the profit margins of wholesalers and retailers—they clearly illustrate the trend.

Inflation, as measured by the retail price index, has fallen much faster than had been expected and is now down to 15.3 per cent.

Many economists believe that the rise in the retail price index this year could be down to single figures. However, this will depend not only on the price of manufactured goods, but also on charges for services, housing, and the products of nationalized industries.

Yesterday's figures show that there is once again a divergence between the cost of industry's raw materials and fuel and prices for finished goods at the factory gate. The input prices tend to fluctuate much more widely than the output prices. They rose faster than output prices in 1979 and fell much faster in 1980, after hitting a peak year-on-year increase last March of almost 30 per cent.

The main influences on the price of raw materials and fuels at the moment are changes in the value of the pound and the increase in crude oil prices.

The price index for materials and fuel purchased by the manufacturing industry in December rose by 1¾ per cent. It was the largest monthly increase since March, and brought the year-on-year increase up to 9.7 per cent, compared with 9.3 per cent in November.

Money supply, page 13
Tables, page 16

Mrs Thatcher says Cabinet shuffle should bring a new dynamism

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

While conceding that reshuffling a Government is not a task that any Prime Minister relishes, Mrs Margaret Thatcher yesterday claimed that her changes, announced on Monday, were designed to give the Government "a new momentum, a new dynamism, which reaffirms the direction in which we are going."

She said that her aim was to promote those ministers who had done well, but that meant that some people must relinquish their portfolios. "That is the difficult part", she said. "You really have to grit your teeth to do it, but you have to."

One impelling factor was that in almost every interview she was asked when she was going to reshuffle the Cabinet. This induced great uncertainty in people's minds.

"Better to get it over and do it", she told Judith Chalmers in an interview on the ITV programme *After Noon Plus*.

Now it was done, she said, "and the future is reaffirmed and we shall go full steam ahead".

But, for all the new dynamism, Mrs Thatcher seemed weak in her expanations for the moves that had been made. She wanted to promote people who had been a succcss. She wanted to give wider departmental experience to some junior ministers.

"I did it quietly, without fuss, efficiently and in the normal incidence of the day's work during the recess," she said.

Asked about reports that she was angry about disloyalty and leaks of information about Cabinet activities, Mrs Thatcher was blunt.

"Yes", she said. "Leaks there have been. They should not have happened because it does not make for efficient Cabinet government if you feel that everything you say might be repeated outside. It should not happen in any government.

"I hope it will happen less and less, and that people are much more aware of the damage that it has done.

"Disloyalty—it is not a question of being disloyal to a Prime Minister. Cabinet government consists of coming to a decision by discussion.

"What you should never do is to say, 'All right, I am going along with it [a decision] inside Cabinet, provided that outside I can say that I do not agree'.

"That is not Cabinet government and it would weaken any government."

When it was put to Mrs Thatcher that she could not tolerate people who voiced strong criticism and that she might have dropped Mr Norman St John-Stevas because he had been outspoken, she said: "If I could not have tolerated them, they would not have been in the Cabinet, because we could never have got on.

"Cabinet government consists in discussion and deciding jointly the direction in which you should go.

"Every Prime Minister has to tolerate criticism. If you put yourself in the front line, you must expect to be shot at."

She thought Mr Francis Pym,

Continued on page 2, col 4



Solicitor General reminds editors of the legal limits in reporting arrests

By Our Political Correspondent

Newspaper editors and the controllers of radio and television programmes were reminded yesterday by Sir Ian Percival, QC, the Solicitor General, of their responsibilities under the law in reporting the Peter Sutcliffe case.

He emphasized "the vital principle, embodied in English law, that a man accused of a crime, however serious, is presumed to be innocent and is entitled to a fair trial".

Sir Ian wrote to editors on behalf of Sir Michael Havers, QC, the Attorney General, who is not in London. A spokesman for the Attorney General said that the letter was sent after complaints had been received from private citizens and from a government minister about the way events in Dewsbury were being reported.

Many MPs had expressed fears that a person might be condemned by advance publicity. Mr Thomas McNally, Labour MP for Stockport South, had spoken earlier of "lynch-mob journalism".

Mr McNally wrote to Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, asking him to consult the law officers to see if the rules and guidelines applying to the arrest of a person on a serious charge had been observed.

The Solicitor General's letter, signed by his legal secretary, expressed concern about the publicity given to the case since the arrest of Mr Sutcliffe.

It said: "The Solicitor General reminds editors of the vital principle embodied in English law that a man accused of a crime, however serious, is presumed to be innocent and is entitled to a fair trial, and of the responsibility which the law accordingly places upon editors in circumstances such as the present.

"The Solicitor General will be discussing with the Attorney General those reports which have been published since Mr Sutcliffe's arrest, but he is anxious that editors should themselves consider the publications for which they have been responsible and take such decisions in relation to future publications as will minimize the risk of prejudicing a fair trial."

Mr McNally, who appeared to have the backing of many MPs, said: "Every decent person wants to see the man responsible for these crimes brought to book, but neither the horror of the crimes nor the worldwide interest in the case should cause us to abandon principles and practices which have long been at the heart of British justice.

"Lynch-mob journalism must never play a part in the British judicial process. I wonder whether the British media will, on reflection, consider their behaviour to be compatible with the standards required for the rule of law to prevail."

In his letter to the Home Secretary, Mr McNally wrote: "Almost immediately the arrest was announced, the name of the accused was published, as was a photograph, and interviews were carried out with neighbours, workmates and (perhaps most disturbingly) with the arresting officers.

"I share the desire of the whole nation to see the perpetrator of these wicked crimes brought to book, but I am concerned that, with the intensity of public feeling, we should not lose sight of the principles and practices which are at the heart of British justice.

"I write to you in no doubt that the concern of you and your relevant colleagues will ensure that the behaviour of the media and others is compatible with the standards required if the highest principles of British justice are to be upheld".

Leading article, letters, page 11

Iran celebrates a victory scorned by Iraq

Thousands of Iranians celebrated "glorious military victories" over Iraqi forces in the oil province of Khuzistan, announced on radio and television in Tehran. But western journalists, barred from both sides of the war front, have been unable to verify the claims—or those of Iraq which pour scorn on Tehran. Meanwhile, Ayatollah Khomeini has told his government to accept undertakings by Algeria in its handling of the hostages issue Page 5

Ulster jobs blow

The Government has announced that 1,600 Civil Service jobs in Northern Ireland are to be abolished by 1984. Unions regard the news as a devastating blow in a region suffering unemployment of nearly 17 per cent. Sir Geoffrey Howe, at a Stormont lunch, gave a far from encouraging review of Ulster's economy Page 2

P & O dispute ends

P & O has announced that its ferry service between Liverpool and Belfast is to resume this week. The management and unions will continue talks on how to make the service economically sound. Members of the crew of the Ulster Queen, one of the ferries involved in the closure, have ended their sit-in on the ship Page 2

Action on disabled

Several organizations for the disabled intend to challenge the legality of cuts in services, it was disclosed at a press conference in London to launch International Year of Disabled People. Lord Snowdon, president of the organizing committee for the year in England, called for a new era of action Page 3

EEC commissioners to decide portfolios

Mr Gaston Thorn, the new President of the European Commission, has gone into conclave with his 13 fellow commissioners to decide who does what job over the next four years. The procedure is designed to avoid the traditional "night of the long knives" but considerable clashes of interest are likely in the fight for portfolios Page 4

Truce for rail talks

Train drivers' leaders are maintaining their threat of national strike action, although a truce, pending top-level talks on railway financial strategy has ended the immediate disruption of Southern Region commuter services. The chairman of British Rail will meet NUR chiefs today and the footplate leaders tomorrow Page 2

Mr Tom Litterick dies

Mr Tom Litterick, who was Labour MP for Birmingham, Selly Oak, from October, 1974, until the general election in 1979, died in London on Monday night, it was learnt yesterday. Mr Litterick, who was aged 51, had a severe heart attack about four years ago Obituary, page 12

1,100 Fisons jobs go

Fisons is to restructure its fertilizer business with the closure of four works and the loss of about 1,100 jobs—more than a quarter of the division's workforce. Unions claim that they were given no warning of the redundancies Page 13

Blair Peach death: Unofficial inquiry by National Council for Civil Liberties found that New Zealand teacher who died in Southall was killed by a blow from a member of the Special Patrol Group 4

Rome: The Bishop of Ivrea in Piedmont offers himself as hostage in exchange for Dr Giovanni D'Urso, the judge kidnapped by the Red Brigades 4

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Hess wreath sent to Donitz funeral

The Iron Cross was seen glinting on chests at the funeral of Grand Admiral Karl Dönitz when about 5,000 naval veterans saw Hitler's successor buried at Aumühle, near Hamburg. Wreaths at the ceremony, officially ignored by the West German state, included one from Herr Rudolf Hess, who is still being held in Spandau prison. Berlin Page 4

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P&O ferry service is to resume this week

By R. W. Shakespeare
Northern Industrial Correspondent

The P & O ferry service between Liverpool and Belfast is to resume this week. The company made the announcement last night at the end of a day of talks in Liverpool between the management and representatives of six unions.

A company official said it was likely that the first sailing would be on Thursday. The unions and the management will continue discussions on how to make the service viable.

Members of the crew of the Ulster Queen, one of the ferries, who have been occupying the ship for the past five days have called off their action.

Last week P & O said it was cancelling the service, with the loss of 330 jobs, because of financial losses. It blamed industrial action, including the most recent dispute over pay, on its ships and on the Liverpool waterfront for some of its troubles.

The settlement was worked out in nearly six hours of negotiations between Captain Gerry McGowan, P & O's deputy chairman and fleet director, and representatives of the National Union of Seamen, the Transport and General Workers' Union, the Merchant Navy and Airline Officers' Association, the Mercantile Marine Service Association, the Radio and Electronics Officers Union, and ASTMS, the clerical workers' union.

Representatives of the 47 members of the crew involved in the sit-in on board the Ulster Queen had said that they would see the ship "rot in the docks" unless the company revoked its decision to end the service.

NUS threat: The executive of the National Union of Seamen has decided to intensify its campaign of "guerrilla" action if the employers refuse today to accept a union invitation to take the dispute over the national pay claim to the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (David Felton writes).

The union would instruct its members on deep sea vessels belonging to 14 so far unnamed companies to refuse to take them out of port. Action would also be taken against other deep sea fleets.

In addition, the executive decided that cross-Channel ferries could become targets if the General Council of British Shipping rejects an approach to Acas on the union's 16 per cent pay claim.

The employers, who have offered 10.5 per cent, have been reluctant to go to arbitration, but they will announce their reply today after a meeting with their industrial relations experts.

1,600 more jobs to go as Ulster economy continues its decline

From Christopher Thomas
Belfast

Northern Ireland's beleaguered economy was dealt another blow yesterday with the announcement that 1,600 Civil Service jobs are to go by 1984.

The news came on the day of a visit by Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, who was in no position to offer any comfort to the most economically depressed area of the United Kingdom.

The Civil Service cuts represent about 9 per cent of the total number of government jobs in the province.

The job losses are regarded by the admittedly weak trade union movement in Ulster as a devastating blow to a region suffering nearly 17 per cent unemployment. In some parts of Belfast, mainly the Roman Catholic areas, the unemployment rate is 50 per cent or more.

Even relatively prosperous Protestant areas, which a decade ago had never experienced unemployment, are feeling the strains of Northern Ireland's declining industrial base.

Where terrorism has failed to drive industry away, economics have succeeded. "Loyalist" centres of employment such as Lisburn and Carrickfergus have suffered closures and cuts by big employers.

The loyalist stronghold of Harland and Wolff, the shipbuilders and repairers, which by the past has employed only the barest minimum of Roman Catholics, continues to decline. It employs 8,000 people now; a decade ago the total was four times that number.

After being saved by government subventions in four of the past five years, the future of the yard continues to look bleak.

The Government's remarkable generosity to the De Lorean car project in Belfast, which has received £64m in public grants and loans, demonstrates the acute difficulty of attracting viable industry to Ulster.

The exercise will cost more than £25,000 for every job created and few local politicians of any persuasion believe the project has been worth while.

Sir Geoffrey's main speech of the day, at a Stormont lunch, was far from encouraging.

He said that between 1971 and 1977 only 550 jobs were created as a result of investment from abroad because of the image of the province overseas. Improved security, however, had brightened the situation since 1977.

Referring to the joint studies agreed after the meeting in Dublin between Mrs Thatcher and Mr Charles Haughey, Prime Minister of the Irish Republic, on December 8, Sir Geoffrey said: "This is not a device for separating Northern Ireland from the rest of the United Kingdom.

"It is simply a way of developing an already close relationship to the advantage of both countries including, within the United Kingdom, that of Northern Ireland."

Photograph, page 12





Adviser's arrival: Professor Alan Walters, of Johns Hopkins University and the World Bank, entering 10 Downing Street yesterday to join the staff as the Prime Minister's economic adviser. Professor Walters, aged 54, is to be paid £50,000 a year. His appointment met protests from Labour MPs and it was also criticized by the Association of First Division Civil Servants, representing senior grades in Whitehall. He will receive £28,500, at a rank equivalent to a second permanent secretary, which will be topped up with £21,500 from the funds of the Conservative Centre for Policy Studies.

Business Diary, page 15

Paintings, bullion, and cash present disposal problems

Too much can be as bad as too little for a conscientious thief

By Stewart Tendler
Crime Reporter

Big is not always good in the underworld as the gang sentenced this week for the £3.4m silver bullion robbery can testify. They were not to know that the rise in silver prices would turn their haul from a "fat salmon into a whale"; and whales are not the easiest things to dispose of.

The gang may, however, take some consolation from the fact that they are not the first criminals to discover that success can be a mixed blessing.

They and the Great Train Robbers 17 years ago were victims of what could be described as the law of diminishing criminal returns. The larger the haul the larger the police interest and the larger the difficulty in profiting from the crime. Sentence on capture can also be expected to be larger.

The effects of the law can be offset by having a reasonable idea of what you are stealing and knowing where to sell or spend it. The Great Train Robbers were none too sure what they would get until they opened the mail train sacks and discovered £2.5m.

Their delight turned to chagrin as the police hunt started in earnest and at least some members of the gang could not wait to give the money back. More than £100,000 was left lying in a Surrey wood and another £50,000 was found in a telephone box.

Money can be as difficult to get rid of as bullion. Some of the train robbers were found with their share of the money hidden close by. Like many other robbers, they had difficulties knowing where to put the cash even though it was in old, untraceable bills. Any large sum put into a bank will immediately attract attention, and a solution such as a safe deposit box involves a third party and records.

The difficulties are not confined to money and bullion. One senior London detective who spent months investigating several lorry thefts involving cargoes of drink remembers that on more than one occasion the lorries and the loads were found dumped. The gang had simply stolen more than they could sell.

Such difficulties are as nothing compared with those of the art and antiques thief. Money, bullion, and bottles lack the individuality that gives a fine painting its danger. In 1974, a Vermeer worth £1.25m was taken from Kenwood House, Hampstead. It was found in a churchyard two months later.

Yet the big theft is not without some advantage. No one knows exactly how much was taken from safe deposit boxes at two banks in London. A branch of Lloyds in Baker Street is thought to have had £3.5m stolen from it in 1971.

Even the burglar sometimes meets unexpected difficulties, however. The owner of a Yorkshire home returned to find that he had been burgled, but the thief had used his house as a place to dump four oil paintings from another theft.

'Magic' golf balls clubbed to death

From Ronald Faux
St Andrews

Technology seems on the point of enabling golf balls to behave in a way that nature never intended. The threat is grave enough for the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews, the legislating body for the sport, to amend the rules that dictate precisely what a golf ball is.

The new amendment says they should be "spherically symmetrical". The rule has been issued at the same time as identical amendments from the governing bodies in the United States and Mexico so that a standard specification is set throughout the world.

Mr George Wilson, secretary of the Implements and Ball committee at the Royal and Ancient, described the amendment as a preemptive move against technical developments which could give certain performance characteristics.

He said: "The new rule is not aimed at any particular brand or type of ball, but the manufacturers admit they have been carrying out research into ways of making a golf ball do this, that or the next thing by changing the pattern of its dimples."

By non-symmetrical dimpling it is apparently possible to make a ball perform in a different manner which, the rule makers believe, is not in the best interests of either golf or golfers.

The amendment has been introduced after consultation and agreement with the manufacturers.

The temptation to market a "magic" ball, which because of its odd dimples clings rigidly to a line directly down the fairway no matter how haphazardly it was struck, would clearly be great.

Golfers recalled past efforts to produce helpful innovations, including the ball that contained an electronic "bleep" that could be found in the thickest undergrowth.

One informed golfer recalled coming across a "magic" golf ball in California. No matter how it was sliced the thing corrected itself and went the right way. Such a ball, he thought, could well have prodded the Royal and Ancient into action.

Better times ahead, Mr Pym says

By Geoffrey Browning
Parliamentary Staff

There were some favourable signs for Britain in the new year despite the enormous difficulties the country faced, Mr Francis Pym, the new Leader of the Commons, said last night.

In his first speech since the Prime Minister's ministerial reshuffle, Mr Pym, who was in Carlisle, said only by pursuing a sound economic and financial policy and by holding to their purpose could they hope for restoration of better days.

Inflation was falling, whereas it had been increasing rapidly last year. Over the past six months, Britain's inflation rate had been lower than that of a number of other countries competing with it.

Alongside the falling rate of inflation and in response to the realistic lead given by the Government, the country could cautiously hope that the rate of pay settlements would be much lower this year than last. From grim experience during the 1970s, Britain had learnt that inflationary settlements lead only to unemployment, and that was underlined by the pay explosion of 1978-80.

"Only if realism and responsibility over pay is sustained can we hope to bring the disturbing rise in unemployment to a halt and restore the prospect of a fall in unemployment and a return to more prosperous times in industry", he said.

The good news on industrial relations was that fewer days were lost in strikes in the autumn than in any comparable period in the past 30 years.

"The message, drummed in by the disastrous effects of the 1979 engineering strike and the 1980 steel strike is at last getting through", he said.

"People are realizing that they cannot strike their way to prosperity, full employment, or price stability."

Mr Pym recalled that during the past year there had been a remarkable turn round on Britain's overseas trade and balance of payments. That was only partly caused by North Sea oil and was a tribute to British exporters.

Many British companies had been highly successful in selling goods and services abroad despite the high pound, intense overseas competition, and the recession.

Mr Pym dismissed the new year message from Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, as evidence that Labour had learnt nothing from past failures.

Labour's recipe for the future comprised a grim programme of more nationalization, high taxation, excessive government spending and borrowing, bureaucratic interference, and trade union restrictions.

Minister says student intake can be held

From Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent
Carlisle

Mr Mark Carlisle, Secretary of State for Education and Science, denied yesterday that government cuts in resources for higher education would necessarily mean a drop in the number of students admitted to universities and colleges next autumn.

Mr Carlisle announced last month that the universities' grant for 1981-82 would be cut by 4 per cent and that the government rate support grant to local authorities assumed a similar cut in public sector spending on higher education.

"I do not accept that a relatively small decline in resources must be precisely matched by a fall in provision", he told the annual North of England educational conference which opened in Carlisle yesterday.

The Government would be encouraging the University Grants Committee to encourage universities to keep their 1981 admissions at their present level, he said later.

"My guess is that the 4 per cent cut will not have very much effect on next year's entry into higher education. This year, we had level funding and would have assumed that there would be a substantial reduction in student numbers, but in fact admissions went up."

Earlier, Mr Carlisle called on local authorities to save money by taking more surplus school places out of use and by closing more small schools.

It cost as much to retain two temporary classrooms as to employ one teacher; and for every 100,000 surplus permanent places retained local authorities have to spend about £15m a year which could have been spent for other educational purposes.

The Government has asked local authorities to remove 750,000 surplus school places from the system by 1982 but they are a long way short.

Experience suggested that an 11 to 16 comprehensive school of fewer than 600 pupils found it difficult to offer a curriculum of appropriate range and to provide sufficient teaching groups.

At primary level, particularly in urban areas, he suggested that falling pupil numbers should not lead to mixed-age classes of more than 25 pupils. Pupils in such classes tended to do much less well than children in single-age classes.

He realized how difficult and controversial school closures could be. But together the Government and local authorities had to impress on parents and teachers that the closure of their school not only had financial benefits but would lead to a better education for their children.

Rail truce but strike threat stays

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Train drivers' leaders are maintaining their threat of preparations for talks with Sir Peter Parker, the chairman of British Rail.

But Southern Region rail commuters on the London to Hastings line will be spared further inconvenience after a decision yesterday to suspend industrial action by footplate men at three depots over new work rosters.

Today Sir Peter Parker will put to the executive of the National Union of Railwaymen his case for a joint approach by unions and British Rail management for improved government cash aid.

Mr Raymond Buckton, general secretary of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (Aslef), said: "I have been instructed to seek a joint meeting of the railway trade unions in a further effort to obtain agreement on a united railway trade-union strategy in opposition to what can be seen as the demolition of the railways in Britain.

The first sign that the rail militants were prepared to back down in favour of that bargaining position came yesterday, when Southern Region train drivers on the London to Hastings line, who have halted traffic over the cancellation of some services, agreed to work normally while the whole case of railway financing is discussed at the highest level.

Prostitute death file still open

Lancashire police are keeping open their inquiry into the murder of Mrs Joan Harrison, a prostitute, aged 26, whose body was discovered in a disused garage in Preston in November, 1975.

Her murder was attributed at the time by Yorkshire police to the so-called "Yorkshire Ripper".

Sir Robert Marshall: Emergency review.

Mr Ronald Keating: Putting the heat on.

Water unions see miners' pay deal as pace-setter

Continued from page 1

feather dusters, we are here for real and we are going to win," he said.

The unions had submitted a 30 per cent claim but had indicated during the earlier negotiations that they were not going to accept less than the miners' 13 per cent 10-month deal, which they estimated was worth about 16 per cent on an annual basis.

The effectiveness of any plans for troops or supervisory staff to keep services operating in the event of a strike would depend largely on the cooperation of white collar staff. Mr Keating said the unions would be getting in touch with unions representing them.

Sir Robert said the employers' final offer, which would cost the industry £13m, would increase water rates by 0.6 per cent, and if it was reflected in awards to the industry's 75,000 other workers, the overall effect would be a 2 per cent increase.

Under the offer, basic pay for the highest grades, including an efficiency supplement, would rise from £71.84 a week to £78.50 and average earnings would rise to between £119 and £120 a week.

Sir Robert said the increases the manual workers had received in the past two years had outstripped rises in the retail price index. "We did not think that this is the time, with two and a quarter million unemployed and the country in desperate economic straits, for any monkeying about.

He denied that the water council had come under pressure from the Government not to increase the offer and maintained that water workers were "singularly lucky" in that they had secure jobs in an industry which could not be slimmed.

Dr Owen says electoral college a 'fix'

By Our Parliamentary Staff

The nature of the Labour Party would be profoundly affected for decades if the special conference on January 24 decided on an electoral college method of selecting future leaders, Dr David Owen, the former Labour minister, said last night.

It was not too late for the party to draw back from an electoral college, which would be a "fix", and to make no decision on how to widen the franchise. It should give more careful thought to the proposition of one member, one vote.

Until now, Labour MPs have chosen the party leader but in future that will be the task of an electoral college, whose composition is controversial.

The formula envisaged by the left wing National Executive Council is 33 per cent of the votes for the Parliamentary Labour Party, 33 per cent for the constituency parties, 33 per cent for the trade unions and 1 per cent for other organizations.

Dr Owen, MP for Plymouth, Devonport, told a public meeting arranged by Loughborough Constituency Labour Party, that no other socialist party in the world allowed, or would even contemplate allowing trade union block votes to be in a position to choose their leader or potential Prime Minister.

He emphasized that 74 constituencies or trade unions had supported the principle of one member, one vote.

A democratic constitution either had MPs voting in a postal ballot or individual members of a party. "It cannot be reiterated too often: you cannot compromise with one member, one vote. The electoral college is a fix. The percentages are totally arbitrary."

Mrs Thatcher defends spending on arms

Continued from page 1

former Secretary of State for Defence and now Leader of the House, was one of the most able people on the Tory benches, and she was very sorry to have lost Mr St John-Stevas.

Asked to justify millions of pounds spent on weapons, Mrs Thatcher said: "There will be no future life in this country unless we are prepared to defend ourselves. In our first year, defence expenditure actually went up to 3 per cent in real terms, taking account of inflation. This year it will be about 2½ per cent, and next year it will have increased."

The implication of this remark was that the appointment of Mr John Nott, former Secretary of State for Trade, a stern defender of monetarist policies, has not been brought in to enforse some extra cuts that Mr Pym was resisting.

Answering questions from a panel of distinguished women, Mrs Thatcher repeated her view that the most important task of mothers was to stay at home and bring up their children, although she wanted more women to come into public life.

On the prospects for British industry, Mrs Thatcher said that the essentials were: to concentrate on making our industries competitive; to produce goods that people would like and want to buy; to avoid strikes that interrupted the flow of goods, and to get nationalized industries to give better value for money.

Another essential was to persuade workers to accept new technology. "One example is *The Times*", she said. "There they poured money into new machinery, but the people would not operate it".

Mr St John-Stevas said last night: "Naturally, I am disappointed to have left the Government, but I fully respect the right of the Prime Minister to make the disposition of ministers that she wishes.

"I shall continue to do all I can to support the arts from the backbenches, also the cause of parliamentary procedural reform."

Leading article, page 11

Farmworkers say pay offer of 10.3% is insulting

By Hugh Clayton
Agriculture Correspondent

Farmworkers failed yesterday to win an improved pay offer from farmers. The Agricultural Wages Board for England and Wales voted in London to accept the reduced offer of 10.3 per cent made by farmers last November.

Mr Jack Boddy, general secretary of the National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers, said that the rise was "an appaling insult". But the board did accept a plea from his union and the Transport and General Workers' Union to hold an independent investigation into the main evidence from farmers on which the 10.3 per cent award was based.

Mr Boddy said after the board had met for four hours that the National Farmers' Union had insisted that a large rise would lead to redundancies as the 1980 award of 21 per cent had done.

Oxford conference, page 3

Sex shop opens despite mothers' picket

Mothers tried yesterday to prevent the opening of the first sex shop in Ardsley, Barnsley, 50 yards from a school.

They were picketing the shop, which had its sign smashed, before Mr Mark Gainford, the manager, arrived. He had to pick plaster out of the lock to get in, while the women hurled abuse and spat through the door.

Mrs Carol Bingley, aged 34, who has two children, said: "It is disgusting. If anywhere, it should be in a back street.

"I am broad-minded, but it is a bit too much. A residential area is not the place for this type of shop. It lowers the tone of the district."

Mr Gainford, of Conegate Ltd, a London company which owns the shop, said: "We normally have a protest at first, but it usually dies down. It is for adults only, and no one has to come in if they do not want to."

BBC talks open on prospects for 'radiovision'

By Kenneth Gosling

The BBC team under Miss Monica Sims, controller, Radio 4, which is looking into the prospects for "radiovision", the BBC version of breakfast television, has its first formal meeting tomorrow.

Miss Sims said yesterday that Commercial television's plans for a breakfast service were expensive, the BBC's modest. If the governors agreed to a service, consultations with the unions would follow.

The group will consult experts in London and at the network centres in the BBC regions. Apart from Miss Sims, it consists of Mr Derrick Amoore, manager, Radio London; Mr Alan Protheroe, assistant director, news and current affairs; Mr Philip Gilbert, planning manager, television resources, and Mr Richard Wade, chief assistant, Radio 4.

Police officers give big boost to private health care schemes in Britain

By Frances Gibb

About 50,000 police officers, more than half the total in Britain, have taken out private health insurance contributing to the growth in occupational health schemes in the past two years, it was disclosed yesterday.

The Police Federation said that although such schemes were rarely heard of in police forces two years ago, many had been approached by the British United Provident Association (BUPA) and Private Patients Plan, which between them hold 97 per cent of the market, and had decided to join.

Mr Anthony Judge, for the federation, said: "We decided as a federation not to join at a national level but to leave the decision with individual forces".

Surrey police, which joined BUPA a year ago, yesterday said that of 1,600 officers, about 600, or 37 per cent, had joined.

BUPA said yesterday that more groups of employees were joining schemes because as a group they could obtain a discount. A recent National Opinion Poll survey had shown that 60 per cent of union employees would take up the option of private health insurance if offered it, it said.

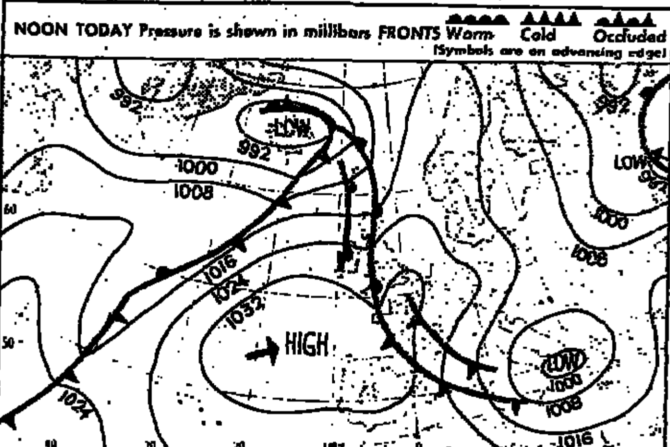
In the past year there had been a 21 per cent growth in groups joining schemes, BUPA said. "The two main reasons are the winter of discontent, which made people worried about public treatment in hospitals, and the change of Government, which gave a chance for private treatment to flourish."

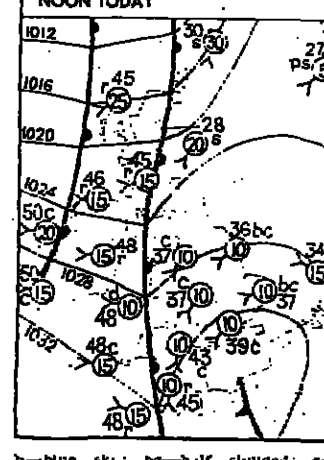
The National Health Service waiting list for operations had been reduced by one quarter, it said, but still stood at about 600,000.

The latest figures from Lee Donaldson Associates, which conducts an annual survey on private medical care schemes for the Department of Health and Social Security show that about 6 per cent of the population, or 3.37 million, are covered by private health.

Subscribers joining group schemes had risen from 368,000 in 1968 to 602,000 in 1970, and to 1,035,000 in 1979. Together with individual subscribers, the total at the end of 1979 was 1,292,000 subscribers, representing some 2,765,000 individuals who are covered by private health.

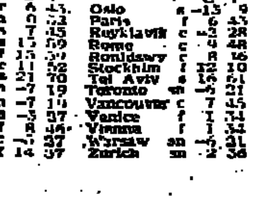
Weather forecast and recordings





b—blue sky; bc—half clouded; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; pr—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph.

Today



Sun rises: 8.05 am. Sun sets: 4.09 pm
Moon rises: 8.45 am. Moon sets: 5.39 pm
First quarter: January 13.
Lighting up: 4.39 pm to 7.34 am.
High water: London Bridge, 2.16 am, 7.1m; 2.39 pm, 7.1m. Avonmouth, 7.46 am, 13m; 8.05 pm, 12.9m. Dover, 11.29 am, 6.4m; 11.54 pm, 6.6m. Hull, 6.53 am, 7.1m; 7.06 pm, 7.4m. Liverpool, 11.51 am, 9.3m.
1ft = 0.3048m 1m = 3.2808ft

A ridge over SE areas will give way as frontal troughs cross from the W.

Forecast for 6 am to midnight:

London, SE, central S and E England, East Anglia, E Midlands: Fog patches slow to clear, bright by afternoon but rain in evening; wind NW, light, backing SW moderate; max temp 3° to 6°C (37° to 43°F).

Wales, Isle of Man N Ireland: Rain, heavy in places; wind W, moderate to fresh; max temp 7° to 9°C (45° to 48°F).

Lake District, SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll: Rain soon spreading from W, heavy at times, some snow at first away from coasts; wind SW, fresh to strong, veering W; max temp 6 to 9°C (43 to 48°F).

Central N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Fog patches clearing in morning, then snow turning to rain; wind SW fresh to strong, veering W later; max temp 3 to 5°C (37 to 41°F).

Midlands, NW England: Patchy fog, soon clearing, rain by afternoon; wind mostly W, light to moderate; max temp 5° to 7°C (41° to 45°F).

Channel Islands, SW England: Light rain at times; wind mostly W, light to moderate; max temp 7° to 10°C (45° to 50°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Milder but cloudy tomorrow with occasional rain mainly in the N. Becoming brighter on Friday with showers, turning wintry in the N.

Sea passages: S North Sea, Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): wind NW backing W, moderate or fresh; sea slight to moderate.

St George's Channel, Irish Sea: wind W moderate, becoming fresh or strong; sea moderate, locally rough.

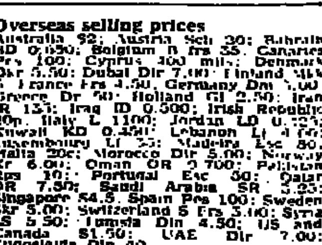
Yesterday

London: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 7°C, (45°F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 4°C, (39°F). Humidity, 6 pm, 91 per cent. Rain, 24-hr to 6 pm, 0.09in. Sun, 24-hr to 6 pm, nil. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,024.8 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	c	16	61	Copenhgn	f	−7	19	London	r	6	43	Oslo	s	−13	9
Algiers	s	16	61	Florence	c	0	32	Luxmbrg	sn	0	32	Paris	f	6	43
Amsterdm	f	3	37	Funchal	c	17	63	Madrid	s	7	45	Reykjavik	c	−2	28
Athens	s	9	48	Geneva	sn	1	34	Majorca	s	15	59	Rome	c	9	48
Barcelona	s	13	55	Gibraltar	f	15	59	Malaga	f	15	59	Ronldsway	c	8	46
Beirut	f	16	61	Guernsey	c	8	46	Malta	c	11	52	Stockhlm	f	−12	10
Berlin	f	−3	27	Helsinki	s	−19	−6	Miami	s	21	70	Tel Aviv	s	16	61
Bermuda	f	14	57	Innsbrck	sn	−3	27	Montreal	sn	−7	19	Toronto	sn	−6	21
Biarritz	c	11	52	Istanbul	sn	1	34	Moscow	sn	−7	19	Vancouver	c	7	45
Brussels	f	3	38	Jersey	c	8	46	Munich	sn	−3	27	Venice	f	1	34
Budapest	c	0	32	L Palmas	f	18	64	Naples	f	8	46	Vienna	f	1	34
Chicago	sn	−2	28	Lisbon	s	12	54	New York	c	3	37	Warsaw	sn	−6	21
Cologne	c	0	32	Locarno	sn	0	32	Nice	f	14	57	Zurich	sn	2	36

Overseas selling prices
Australia $2; Austria Sch 20; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs 35; Canaries Pts 100; Cyprus 400 mils; Denmark Dkr 5.50; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland Mk 5; France Frs 4.50; Germany Dm 3.00; Greece Dr 50; Holland Gl 2.50; Iran IR 135; Iraq ID 0.500; Irish Republic 20p; Italy L 1100; Jordan LD 0.325; Kuwait KD 0.450; Lebanon L£ 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 35; Madeira Esc 80; Malta 20c; Morocco Dir 5.00; Norway Kr 6.00; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rps 10; Portugal Esc 50; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR 3.25; Singapore $4.5; Spain Pts 100; Sweden Skr 5.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria LS 5.50; Tunisia Din 4.50; US and Canada $1.50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 40



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HOME NEWS

Court action planned to test cuts in services for disabled

By David Nicholson-Lord

Concern that the lives of disabled people might be *endangered* by "*cruel and unnecessary*" public spending reductions was expressed at a press conference attended by representatives of voluntary organizations in Guildhill, London, yesterday, to mark the start of the International Year of *Disabled People*.

Some speakers asked for restoration of the 5 per cent cut from sickness and invalidity benefit, and told the Government not to "shrug off its responsibilities on to voluntary organizations".

It was disclosed that a number of organizations for the disabled are to challenge the legality of some cuts in services. In what is thought to be the first case of its kind, an unnamed county council in the north of England has been given *seven days to indicate whether* it intends to instal a hoist in a disabled woman's bungalow.

The Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation, which is coordinating the action, said that if the reply was negative proceedings would be begun for a High Court action against the council, on the ground that it was failing to fulfil its obligations under the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act, 1970.

Concerted effort by charities

Mrs Ursula Keeble, who is in charge of the project, said that further test cases were planned, covering areas such as charges for home helps or day centres.

She said: "This is really a concerted effort by cbharities, triggered off by sheer horror at the way the needs of the disabled are being disregarded and services being eroded."

Among the speakers at the conference was Lord Snowdon, president of the organizing committee for England, who called for an effort by the media to help to ensure that the international year would be a "great deal more than that . . . the first 12 months of a new era of understanding and action".

Mr Kit Aston, chairman of the committee, said it had written to Mr Hugh Rossi, the newly appointed Minister for Social Security, urging restoration of the cut in invalidity benefit. It was needed, he said, to safeguard the disabled "against what could well be cruel and unnecessary cuts during the coming year".

Benefit reductions said *to be shabby*

Mr Jack Ashley, chairman of the parliamentary all-party disablement group, said that the disabled should vigorously oppose spending cuts and campaign during the year for more public spending rather than "just indulge in sentiments".

He added: "We must seek a change in the Government's attitude. Without more cash from the Government, we have just got words and sentiments and promises."

Criticism of the government was also made by Mr Alfred Morris, the former Labour minister for the disabled, who is chairman of the world committee. Mr Morris yesterday left Britain for Zimbabwe where he is to give the United Nations' newest member a preview of the 10-year world development plan for improving services to the disabled.

Mr Morris said more than 650,000 people had been affected by the "shabby" 5 per cent cut in benefit. "Britain must be about the only country in the world where the Government is marking the International Year of Disabled People with a cut in the living standards of large numbers of its most needed disabled people", he said.

Among special events planned for the year in Britain is a garden party to be given by the Queen at Buckingham Palace in July.



Photograph by Keith Waldegrave

Lord Snowdon talking at the conference to Mr Charles Pocock, extecrnal public relations officer for Remploy, the largest employer of the disabled in the Western world.

Leaflets tell patients of mental tribunal rights

By Lucy Hodges

Every mental illness and mental handicap hospital in England and Wales has been sent leaflets telling patients about their right to appeal to mental health review tribunals and how they can be represented at them.

The leaflets have been prepared by MIND, the mental health pressure group, and hospital management committees have been asked to cooperate in the International Year of Disabled People.

In a letter to every hospital, Mr Larry Gostin, MIND's deputy director, asks for staff to make sure that every eligible patient receives a leaflet and has its contents explained.

Mental Health Review Tribunals, a step by step guide to leaving hospital (Free from MIND, 22 Harley Street, London W1).

Windermere sports centre to be closed

From John Chartres
Manchester

The Sports Council announced yesterday that it would close its outdoor pursuits centre at Storr's Hall on Windermere for at least a year. The centre is one of the few providing water sports training for the public in the north of England, and was used by a growing number of disabled people to learn to sail.

The closure had been caused, the Sports Council said, by a combination of difficulties involving government finance, reconsideration of the organization's role in promoting sport, and because the owner of the site, the North British Hotel Trust, required a five-year contract which the council was unable to meet.

The sports centre, on the site of an hotel owned by the trust, whose headquarters are in Edinburgh, has provided chalet and hotel accommodation for up to 50 sports trainees at a time since the middle 1960s.

Discussions are continuing between the hotel group and the Sports Council on the site, which has been used for training in canoeing, water-skiing, fell walking and golf.

The decision to abandon courses during 1981 has come as a special disappointment to physically and visually handicapped people who have been learning to sail there, particularly since it has taken effect at the beginning of the International Year of Disabled People.

Voluntary organizers had hoped that some events for disabled sailors could have been held there in 1981, including a regatta for paraplegics and visually handicapped people, many of whom have reached an advanced stage in the skills required.

The North British Hotel Trust said: "A lot of options are still open and discussions are continuing with the Sports Council. It is unlikely, however, that the residential accommodation in the chalets will be available any more."

Strict security at castle for trial of murder and drugs charges

From Arthur Osman
Lancaster

More than 100 police officers, some armed and others with dogs, were deployed in and around Lancaster Castle yesterday, although it is reputed *to be England's most secure* courthouse and jail.

Armed officers patrolled the battlements of the old fortress while inside, in the splendidly escutcheoned courtroom, 10 male defendants were taken into the dock handcuffed to prison officers and two women were escorted by female officers.

A jury is not expected to be empanelled until next Monday to hear charges which allege murder against some of the men and various contraventions of the *Misuse of Drugs Act*, 1971, against all of them.

The trial, before Mrs Justice Heilbron, is expected to last between three and four months.

Only 12 seats were available for the public who, like the press, had to submit to rigorous searches,

Five men are accused of murdering Martin Christopher Johnstone in Lancashire between October 8 and 15, 1979. Mr Johnston's body, without hands, was found in a quarry at Chorley and he was reported to be an important figure in the drug world of the Far East and Australasia.

The five defendants are: Alexander James Sinclaire, aged 36, of Stafford Court, Kensington, London; Andrew Samuel Maher, aged 27, of Robin Hey, Leyland, Lancashire; James Smith, aged 28, of Derwent Drive, Livingston, Lothian; Frederick Charles Russell, aged 39, of Prince of Wales Road, Kentish Town, London; and Keith William Kirby, aged 27, of Clayton Brook, Lancashire.

Three of the murder-charge defendants, Mr Sinclaire, Mr Russell and Mr Kirby, have admitted charges of importing and supplying drugs.

The two other men on the murder charge, with six others, are charged with conspiring to import and supply controlled drugs, cocaine, heroin and cannabis, contrary to the 1971 Act.

The six others are: Jack Kelvin Barcay, aged 27, of Briar Close, Finchley; Errol John Hincksman, aged 32, of High Road, Leyton; Karen Mary Marie Soich, aged 24, of Stafford Court, Kensington; Christopher Scott Blackman, aged 36, of Princess Road, Regent's Park, all London; Kingsley Fagan, aged 27, of Oakbank, Craigneuk, Strathclyde; and Sylvester Alphonsus Pidgeon, aged 41, of Truro Road, London.

Mrs Leila Constance Barclay, aged 49, of Briar Close, Finchley, had pleaded guilty to conspiring to import and supply the same controlled drugs contrary to the 1971 Act.

Protection for the High Weald

By John Young
Planning Reporter

The High Weald of south-east England has been designated an area of outstanding natural beapty, the Countryside Commission said yesterday. It is the thirty-fourth area to be so designated in England and Wales and, at 560 square miles, the third largest.

The Weald extends from the coast between Hastings and Rye, across a swathe of Kent and East Sussex to the edges of Crawley and Haywards Heath in West Sussex. It consists largely of sandstone hills, orchards, farms, heathland, and deciduous woods that are remnants of the forests of prehistoric Britain.

As well as a rich collection of historic buildings and landscaped parks, the area is notable for its hammer ponds. They are relics of the medieval iron industry and important wildlife habitats.

Pharmaceutical firms delay test code

By Nicholas Timmins

The Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry is delaying agreement of a new code of practice aimed at ending so-called trials of existing drugs that are really promotional exercises.

The code has been under negotiation between the association, representing the drug industry, the British Medical Association and the Royal College of General Practitioners for more than a year.

The negotiations have followed criticism of some drug "trials" in which family doctors have been paid by drug companies for prescribing particular products and reporting back to them. Some of the studies have had little or no scientific value and there have been accusations that the trials were really to influence a doctor's prescribing habits.

Under the proposed code local ethical committees would have to be satisfied that a proposed study was scientifically and ethically sound, and not just a thinly disguised promotional exercise.

Only when the ethical committee had approved the study could it go ahead.

The association's objection is understood to be that it wants the studies to go before ethical committees not as a matter of routine but only if a family doctor asks that the study be so cleared.

The BMA and the Royal College of General Practitioners want such clearance as a matter of course, to reassure both doctors and the public that the study is sound.

The association's objection is based partly on the ground that the procedure would be bureaucratic and it doubts that enough local ethical committees are sufficiently active to judge such trials.

The BMA will shortly try to revive ethical committees which have become inactive but believes that enough are operational to cover the studies in prospect.

In brief

TV bear's owner is prosecuted

Andrew Robbins, owner of Hercules, the bear that appears *in a television commercial, who* went missing for more than three weeks in the Hebrides last year, has been served with a complaint charging him with a contravention of the Dangerous Wild Animals Act, 1976.

Mr Colin Scott Mackenzie, procurator fiscal at Stornoway, said yesterday that he had decided to prosecute. The pleading diet has been fixed for January 28 at Lochmaddy Sheriff Court, North Uist.

Scottish fans complain [illegible] race commission

[illegible]he Scottish division of [illegible] National Federation of [illegible]rs Clubs has com[illegible] to the Commission for [illegible] Equality about the Football Association's ban on the sale of tickets in Scotland for the England-Scotland match at Wembley in May.

Shotgun museum raid

Two raiders, one armed with a shotgun, attacked two attendants at the municipal museum in Hove, East Sussex, yesterday and escaped with antiques, and gold and silver watches valued at £25,000.

1,000 oiled seabirds

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds said yesterday that at least 1,000 oil-polluted seabirds have been counted still alive in the sea between Portsmouth and Folkestone.

Sheep-minding patrols

The Lake District special planning board services committee is to ask for volunteers for patrols over the Easter weekend to help to stop sheep-worrying.

Royal goose gift

A rare Siberian red-breasted goose from the Buckingham Palace pond has been given to the Wildfowl Trust at Peakirk, Cambridgeshire, to improve their breeding stock.

Octogenarian wedding

Mr Edmond Cash, aged 89, a retired shepherd, and Mrs Mable Pyrah, aged 83, are to be married today in the parish church at Nettleham, Lincolnshire.

Queen to open flats

The Queen is to open 46 flats *for old people* on the Sandringham royal estate at Dersingham on January 26.

Lakeland lapses

Power boat offences at Ullswater, in the Lake District rose last year to 191 compared with 148 in 1979.

Coordinating body for food sales proposed

A new body to boost British-produced food sales at home and abroad was proposed yesterday by a member of the group appointed by Mr Peter Walker, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, to advise on better marketing techniques.

Miss Detta O'Cathain, corporate planning executive for Unigate, said such a new cordinating council's job should be to ensure that consumers got what they wanted when they wanted it, and that producers got a fair return.

Addressing the Oxford Farming Conference, *she* said: "In many cases, although the product is right and the presentation matches up with the competition, British agricultural production loses out against imports because supplies cannot be guaranteed.

"In so many areas of our economic activity this seems to be the problem.

"All the marketing expertise and expenditure is wasted if the goods fail to arrive when promised, or on a regular basis. We need and must have consistency of supply, and supplies must be organibed to meet the demand generated by marketing initiatives," Miss O'Cathain said.

There was wide agreement about the reasons for our raltively poor showing in marketing terms against the competition, both in the domestic market and abroad, and agreement that something needs to be done.

"I have proposed that a central coordinating council be set up and I believe, most strongly, that in the national interest the body should not be totally producer-orientated." It should represent the whole food chain, and not become "just another consumer protection body".

The council would also play a part in boosting food exports, worth £2,700m a year. "There has been a horrible lack of coordination in exporting. It is here the council could really give a worthwhile service."

Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith, Minister of State for Agriculture, who opened the conference, said: "The history of every trade cycle shows that as trade turns upwards the benefits are reaped first and to *the* greatest degree by those who climb out of the recession first.

"Britain must be in the lead, not down the queue, when the recession turns."

Like other industries, agriculture had had to cope with inflation and high interest rates, he said. But the battle against inflation was being won, and as the economy improved, so should agriculture.

"More than this, agriculture has a postive role in generating *that improvement*." It was an important wealth creator, adding about £4,000m to the gross national product, and providing a big share of the £25,000m spent on food last year, a fifth of all consumer spending.

"Output means employment, and 650,000 people are employed directly in farming, and as many again indirectly as a result of the purchases agriculture makes", Mr Buchanan-Smith said.

Vicar on £4,100 forgoes full pay rise

From Our Correspondent
Chichester

A country vicar said yesterday that he would not accept the 19 per cent rise in stipend he is entitled to from April.

The Rev John Brown, Vicar of Westhampnett, near Chichester, will take a 6 per cent rise and the balance of £554 a year will go to his parochial church council to help with church expenses. His stipend of £4,100 a year was due to rise to £4,900.

"I do not think a 19 per cent pay rise is justified when many other people are being restricted to 6 per cent", Mr Brown, aged 52, who is married and has three *children*, said yesterday.

"The Church of England is in need of money and by making over some of my pay rise by covenant to my PCC I am helping the Church as a whole."

Mr Brown's wife, Shirley, is a hospital night sister. She agrees with *his decision*.

Acid-throwers jailed for raid on shop

Two young men were jailed by Judge Martin, QC, at Middlesex Crown Court, yesterday, for their part in an attempt to rob a shopkeeper, during which a mixture of sulphuric and hydrochloric acid was flung over him causing burns to a third of his body.

Cameron Joseph Mitchell, aged 20, of Station Road, south Tottenham, London, was sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment and Derek Norman Washington Smith, aged 18, of Roundway, Tottenham, to eight years.

They had pleaded guilty to throwing acid upon Mr Batuk Raithatha at his shop at Conway Road, south Tottenham, on June 9, 1979, with intent to cause him grievous bodily harm, and to attempting to rob him.

Det Sergeant David Crompton said that Mr Raithatha had had a number of plastic surgery *operations*

Four prisoners escape but 11 stay

From Our Correspondent
Great Yarmouth

A cold snowy night may have saved Great Yarmouth police from the embarrassment of a mass break-out. Eleven prisoners stayed in their unlocked cells after four other men had escaped from the town's police station early yesterday.

"The weather may have deterred them" Chief Supt Peter Howse said, "but there were all sorts of other reasons. Some of them had not even been before the court".

He *said that* all 11 *could* have gone with the escapees but denied that a mass breakout had been planned.

The four who escaped had cut their hair to change their appearance, and had worked on the door of their cell-block and a *metal roof grill*.

"The cell doors were left unlocked at night for humanitarian reasons, because of overcrowding", Chief Supt Howse said. "The door to the cell block was locked but it had been tampered with, giving access to a corridor and the exercise yard."

"I don't believe it was a mass break-out attempt; I think only two had planned to go originally. There was no special breakfast for those who stayed behind", he said.

Because of the prison officers' strike the police have had 26 men in the eight cells.

The four men, all facing burglary charges, are said not to be dangerous.

HOME NEWS

Blair Peach coroner accused of bias in civil liberties report

By Nicholas Timmins

Mr Blair Peace, the New Zealand school teacher who died during the Southall demonstration against the National Front in April, 1979, was killed by a blow deliberately inflicted by a member of the Special Patrol Group, the unofficial inquiry established by the National Council for Civil Liberties has concluded.

In a review of the evidence given to the inquest last year into Mr Peach's death, where the jury recorded a verdict of misadventure, with riders, the committee said yesterday it believed that the violence used against him was "unjustified, unreasonable and unlawful".

The unofficial committee, chaired by Professor Michael Dummett, Wykeham Professor of Logic at Oxford University, accuses Dr John Burton, the coroner, of "evident bias" and of a confused and inaccurate direction to the jury, which which made a fair hearing impossible.

The committee calls for important changes in procedure at inquests, and says that Sir David McNee, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, should urgently decide whether disciplinary proceedings are to be taken against individual officers.

The recommended changes in inquest procedure include the appointment of a judge in place of a coroner where the death occurred in suspicious circumstances; the right for counsel for each party to sum up; giving all parties access to all the evidence obtained by the coroner; and restoring the right, recently ended, of juries to add riders to their verdict.

At the Peach inquest the report of Commander John Cass's investigation into the death was available only to the coroner.

The committee says the changes are necessary because "public confidence in the police depends on a visibly rigorous and impartial investigation of any case where the police themselves are suspected of breaking the law.

"We do not believe that inquests as at present constituted come anywhere near meeting this high standard; in particular, the Blair Peach inquest did not."

The committee says that at a meeting with Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, in July, it gained the impression that he was far from thinking that fault for events at Southall lay entirely with the demonstrators.

That impression, however, had not been given to the public. No government minister had suggested that the police were in any way at fault. Yet confidence in the police had been undermined.

Scotland Yard said yesterday that disciplinary proceedings against a number of officers, both in relation to the Blair Peach death and to other incidents in Southall on that day, were still being considered.

The DPP has decided that there is insufficient evidence to prosecute anyone in connexion with the death of Blair Peach.

Supplementary report of the Unofficial Committee of Inquiry; £1.50, from NCCL, 186 King's Cross Road, London WC1X 9DE.

House prices static last quarter

By Margaret Stone

House prices are static. Detailed statistics from two of the country's largest building societies show that house prices in the last quarter were unaltered (Nationwide) or 0.2 per cent down (Abbey National).

Over the year there is a greater divergence between the two society's average house price rise. Nationwide reports that the annual rate of increase, measured by the loans it made, was 9 per cent. At Abbey National, the rate of increase slowed to 5.4 per cent.

The difference is accounted for by variations in the "mortgage mix", the range of properties upon which societies are lending money at any one time, between the two societies.

House price inflation is now running well below the annual increase in retal prices, up by 15 per cent last year, and the estimated increase in average earnings of 20 per cent or more. Both Nationwide and Abbey National agree that the ratio of house prices to earnings has now returned to the normal long-term relationship of about 3.3 times.

The recent cut in mortgage rates should stimulate activity in the housing market, Mr Leonard Williams, chief general manager of the Nationwide, said, although he doubted that there would be "a rapid and unacceptable upsurge in house prices in 1981".

Prejudice at school is alleged

By Richard Garner of *The Times Educational Supplement*

Dr Amal Chattopadhyay, a teacher at Holloway School, Islington, London, was subject to a campaign of victimization after he had claimed he was refused promotion because of his colour, it was alleged at an industrial tribunal yesterday.

Dr Chattopadhyay, is claiming racial discrimination by Mr George De Spinoza, the headmaster, the school's board of governors, and the Inner London Education Authority.

He aplied to be head of the school's history department, but the job was given to Mr Roger Disky, a junior teacher, the tribunal was told. In a letter of complaint to the education authority, Dr Chattopadhyay said that he believed the decision had been made on racialist grounds, a claim denied by the authority.

Mr Arnold Rosen, counsel for Dr Chattopadhyay, who is being supported by the Commission for Racial Equality, claimed that his client had been subjected to a campaign of unlawful victimization by Mr De Spinoza and the educataion authority after making his complaint.

Dr Chattopadhyay began teaching in Islington in 1964. He is a qualified barrister and two years ago started a law course at the school

The hearing continues today.

Wolverhampton paper signs new technology agreement

From Clifford Webb
Wolverhampton

The family-owned *Express & Star* evening newspaper, at Wolverhampton, yesterday showed Fleet Street the way ahead by signing the first agreement in Britain with print and journalist unions for the introduction of a computerized editorial system.

In fact it has been in operation for several weeks and yesterday's formal signing by the National Graphical Association (NGA) and the National Union of Journalists (NUJ) was intended simply to demonstrate that both are entirely happy with the new development.

Reporters are changing their typewriters for video screens and portable terminals. More than half of the editorial team of 140 are using them and say they are delighted with the change.

The biggest departure from traditional methods is the introduction of the portable terminal by reporters filing stories from assignments outside the main office, or from the paper's 10 branch offices.

All the journalists receive an extra £13.50 a week for accepting the new technology. Management originally wanted to restrict payment to those actually operating it, but bargaining by the NUJ and management's acceptance that all journalists will become involved sooner or later, resulted in payment for all.

Mr Bryan Summers, Father of the *Express & Star* NUJ chapel (office branch), said: "The computer video screens and keyboards which we operate in head office, are a damn sight more easy to get on with than typewriters. We were given about two hours training, but really 20 minutes is quite enough."

The system still stops short of the highly controversial single keying issue, that is direct keying by journalists into the printing computer. The Wolverhampton computer still produces written copy that is set by members of the NGA operating electronic keyboards allied to photocomposition.

Asked why a provincial newspaper had made so much progress while Fleet Street stood still, Mr John Ibbotson, the NGA's provincial officer, replied: "Nobody in Fleet Street has attempted to introduce a computerized system which is restricted solely to journalists and stops short of single keying.

"There is no reason why Fleet Street papers should not do what the *Express & Star* has done." Mr Ibbotson said that his union had given an undertaking to talk about single keying over the next three years.

Mr Mark Kersen, managing director of the *Express & Star*, and a former industrial reporter, said: "If we have a secret it is that we have taken the unions along with us every step of the way.

NUJ attacks secrecy habit

By a Staff Reporter

The National Union of Journalists has appealed to its members who sit in Parliament to support the Freedom of Information Bill, which is down for a first reading next Wednesday.

Mr Frank Hooley, Labour MP for Sheffield, Heeley, is introducing the Bill, which would put the onus on the Government and Civil Service to demonstrate the need for secrecy, as in Scandinavia and the United States.

In a letter to 21 MPs who are also NUJ members, including the Leader of the Opposition, Mr Michael Foot, the NUJ president, Mr Francis Beckett, says it is crucial that such an Act be introduced.

Citing the Franks committee report of 1972, Mr Beckett says that section 2 of the Official Secrets Act has long since been discredited and should be replaced. He says that existing laws lead to habits of secrecy among civil servants and government officials. "We need to make secrecy the exception, not the norm", he adds.

WEST EUROPE

Commission in conclave to share out the jobs

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Jan 6

Mr Gaston Thorn, the new President of the European Commission, went into conclave here this evening with his 13 fellow commissioners to begin the delicate task of deciding who will do what job over the next four years.

At a brief ceremony earlier in the day Mr Roy Jenkins, the outgoing President, formally handed over to Mr Thorn, a former Prime Minister of Luxembourg and wished him luck. He is likely to need it if past experience is anything to go by.

Hoping to avoid the traditional "night of the long knives" Mr Thorn and his colleagues decided to meet only for a few hours today and to resume their discussions tomorrow. But despite this more civilized procedure there may still be blood on the Commission's elegant wall-to-wall carpet before the work is done.

Commissioners are appointed by member states, but not to any particular jobs. The known preferences of national governments for their men strongly influence the allocation of jobs, but there is a genuine element of horsetrading which cannot be rigged in advance.

Mr Thorn's room for manoeuvre is even more cramped than usual at this stage. This is first because, with the addition of a new Greek commissioner, he has to conjur up an extra job when there are not enough really worthwhile portfolios to go round as it is.

The four big countries, Britain, France, Italy and Germany, still have two commissioners each, attempts to persuade them to give up one of their commissioners having failed. All other member states are represented by one commissioner apiece.

Second, and much more important, eight members of the old Commission have been reappointed to the new body and all of them appear to be keen to hang on to their previous responsibilities.

This could create a conflict of interest between Mr Christopher Tugenhat who has been promoted to senior British commissioner and is staying on for another four years and Mr Ivor Richard the former Labour MP who comes in as Britain's number two.

Mr Tugendhat wants and fully expects to retain his existing budget responsibility. He is therefore unlikely to challenge the right of other incumbents to stay put if they wish. But this drastically limits the number of jobs open to the newcomers, such as Mr Richard, to fight over.

Ideally, Mr Richard would have liked to be in charge of relations with developing countries. But M Claude Cheysson, the able French Socialist, wants to keep this. As second best he would like industry. But that is occupied by the formidable Belgian Vicomte Etienne Davignon.

This appears to leave Mr Richard with only social affairs as an acceptable fallback option but here he faces a strong challenge from Mr Michael O'Kennedy, a former Irish Finance and Foreign Minister.

One way out of this impasse would be to carve up some of the existing portfolios. It is suggested for example that some of the external relations responsibilities of Herr Wilhelm Haferkaamp, the long-serving West German commissioner, could be hived off, and fisheries separated from agriculture.

Mr Roy Jenkins, left, and Mr Gaston Thorn, the new European Commission President.

Eurocommunism is rejected by Catalan party congress vote

From Richard Wigg
Madrid, Jan 6

The continuance of the Eurocommunist line of the Spanish Communist Party led by Señor Santiago Carrillo, is threatened after a rejection of the term by the Catalan Communists.

At the congress in Barcelona of the Unified Socialist Party of Catalonia (PSUC) 424 pro-Soviet delegates last night defeated the outgoing Eurocommunist leadership, which mustered only 359 votes with 21 abstentions.

The vote at the first of several party congresses due this year is significant for the entire political scene. The Catalan Communists want a return to old-style working-class combativeness in Spain's biggest industrial region where they are strongly represented.

There was undoubtedly some skilled manoeuvring by Stalinist officials still entrenched in the party apparatus who never accepted the parliamentary road to power, even for Catalonia. They have been able to exploit a widespread working-class disillusionment with the actual fruits of Spain's new democracy, inflation, and serious unemployment, particularly among Catalonia's formerly flourishing textile mills.

In a series of votes the whole policy approach represented by Señor Gregorio López Raimundo, the party's veteran president once condemned to death and then exiled under General Franco, and by Señor Antoni Gutierrez, its secretary-general, were defeated by the pro-Soviet delegates. The Eurocommunist leader of the Workers' Commissions, the Communist trade unions, was also defeated.

The Catalan Communists' rejection of Eurocommunism is an alarm signal for Señor Carrillo, who will be 66 this month and faces his own national party's congress later this year. He has already come under growing attack from some younger elements who accuse him of too easy an accommodation with Spain's "bourgeois democracy" after gruelling years in exile or clandestinity.

Señor Carillo, dubbed a "conservative of the left", has been accused of running the party internally with an iron hand while talking outside of socialism "in democracy" and of ignoring everyday working-class problems. His critics are demanding a new combativeness.

Señor Carrillo has been one of the most advanced Eurocommunists on the international scene, condemning the Soviet Union again and again. Only last month he spoke up for the Poles in their struggle to avoid Soviet intervention, telling the Russians publicly that theirs was not the kind of socialism the working classses want.

But in Barcelona, the pro-Soviet majority had removed from the party's main policy document all critical references to the Soviet Union, except that on the invasion of Afghanistan, and inserted many phrases endorsing the Soviet line internationally, the result is a similarity with the Portuguese Communists of Dr Alvaro Cunhal.

One of the most significant votes won by the pro-Soviet majority came on the religious issue. Since the Catalan Communists emerged from clandestinity to take part in Catalonia's emerging regional politics, the party won an important sympathy vote among left-wing Roman Catholics, particularly the personal following of Señor Alfonso Comin, a Catholic sociologist.

The Unified Socialist Party of Catalonia fought past elections with the slogan: "We are your party and the party of everyone". The routed Eurocommunists are already saying that the party has now condemned itself to the kind of "ghetto vote" in future elections the French and Portuguese communist parties muster.

The high degree of openness in the public debate at the congress enabled observers to spot how pro-Soviet delegates from Barcelona's industrial belt managed to slip in identical copies of amendments critical of the outgoing leaders into resolutions presented by delegates from rural parts of Catalonia.

Pro-Soviet figures have been elected to the posts of both party president and secretary-general.

Italian swop offer to kidnappers

From John Earle
Rome, Jan 6

Mgr Luigi Bettazzi, the Bishop of Ivrea in Piedmont, today offered himself as a hostage in exchange for Dr Giovanni D'Urso, an appeal court judge and senior official of the Justice Ministry's prisons department, who was kidnapped by the Red Brigades on December 12.

Writing in his diocesan weekly, Mgr Bettazzi recalled that more than one bishop offered himself in exchange for the late Aldo Moro, the Christian Democrat leader kidnapped in 1978 and then killed.

The Bishop said he was "available now", adding "I will not draw back, if it is necessary. Perhaps the *Brigatisti* need only to affirm themselves. The state cannot allow this. But then, as today, a human life has a value such as to justify making every effort".

Most newspapers and state television are observing a self-imposed limitation on reporting the kidnapping, refusing to publish the texts or contents of Red Brigade communiqués and proclamations though still giving news of terrorist activities.

It has become known that the D'Urso family received a letter on Sunday from the judge in which he is reported to have begged them to ask leading newspapers to publish a long Red Brigade document on the prison system. There is little chance of such a request being accepted.

Five MPs of the small left wing Radical Party today visited Trani maximum security prison in Puglia, where a number of *Brigatisti* are confined. Relatives of some of the inmates have alleged that prisoners were beaten up after the suppression of a revolt there on December 29.

Lake area searched: Armed police today manned road blocks around Rome and combed the area of Lake Bracciano, 25 miles to the north in an attempt to save the life of Dr D'Urso. They refused to say what tip-off had led them to concentrate on the lakeside area but admitted that time was running out for the judge, who was condemned to death after a "people's trial" by the Red Brigades.—Reuter.

Killer wolf shot

Paris, Jan 6.—A wolf was shot dead in the Basses-Pyrénées near Larrau—the first in the area since 1935. In a month it had killed seven lambs and a dog.

Career diplomat new French envoy to Britain

By David Spanier
Diplomatic Correspondent

M Emmanuel Jacqin de Margerie will be the new French Ambassador in London, taking up his post next month, it was announced yesterday. He will replace M Jean Sauvagnargues, who is to retire soon.

M Jacquin de Margerie, at present Ambassador in Madrid comes from a family with a long tradition of service in the diplomatic corps. His father has also been posted to London.

I nan unsual appointment for a career diplomat, M Jacquin de Margerie was Director of Museums in France from 1975 to 1977. He had previously served in Washington, Tokyo and Moscow, and spent four years in the French Embassy in London as a second secretary from 1955-59

Aged 56, he is married and has two children.

Spanish military urged by King to stay united

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Jan 6

King Juan Carlos today told Spain's armed forces that they had to remain united and respect their command structures if the country was to emerge successfully from its difficult transition period.

Addressing more than 200 top-ranking officers from the three services who presented him their New Year compliments, the King also warned them against "harmful infiltration" of the forces.

The King was referring to attempts by small right-wing extremist and old guard groups from the Franco era to influence the services to intervene and cut short some of the processes of Spain's new democracy, such as regional devolution.

Horses die after being left in French railway wagon

From Ian Murray
Paris, Jan 6

The French national railway company (SNCF) and an export company in Hendaye, Pyrenées Atlantiques, are both being investigated by police for cruelty to animals after the death of three horses in a railway wagon on the way to abattoirs near Paris.

The horses, imported from Spain, were discovered by a railway worker at the suburban station of Juvisy last Friday. He investigated when he heard their anguished squeals.

He found 20 horses in the wagon parked in a siding a hundred yards away from the station. They had only about 25 square yards of space—which, according to law, is adequate for only eight horses their size.

He found that, contrary to the law, they were neither tethered nor separated by partitions. Nobody was looking after them, as the law also proscribes, and they had been provided with no food or water since leaving Spain on New Year's Eve. The wagon was sealed.

The horses had apparently become maddened and had turned on each other. Three had died. Their three-day journey had still not ended when the wagon was spotted by the railway worker, because the wagon was waiting in a siding for a suitable train to take it to the abattoir.

Although the SNCF was aware that the journey would take more than 24 hours, it had been unable officially to do anything to provide water or food for the animals because French customs had sealed the wagon when it crossed the border from Spain.

Hunger strikers sue over drip feed

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Jan 6

Two of the six Corsican autonomists who have been on hunger strike for 56 days have instructed their lawyers to start legal proceedings against the prison doctors who forced them over the weekend to be given a drip feed.

The Corsicans were arrested nearly a year ago and are due to be tried on Wednesday of next week. They began their hunger strike in an attempt to force the courts to release them on bail.

A decision on this request is due to be given on Thursday, together with a report on their medical condition. According to the defence lawyers, two of them are so ill that they could die before Thursday, and in any event they will be unable to stand trial next week.

The two were given a drip feed over the weekend despite their protests and one of them was given a blood transfusion. All six are under medical supervision in the prison hospital.

The six are to be tried together with 11 others on charges of belonging to an armed gang and of kidnapping. They were among 59 people arrested after an attempt by autonomists a year ago to put two members of their militant opponents in the Francia organization on public trial.

The Francia group has been responsible for more than 50 bombings on the island against autonomists and their property. When two Francia leaders were captured by the autonomists a year ago, a series of sieges and police raids took place in which three people—including a policeman—died.

The two Francia men were provisionally released from prison in November, which provoked the hunger strike. The autonomists claimed that the law was giving preferential treatment to avowed terrorists, whose bombging campaign was in support of "French colonialism" in Corsica.

A prison service bulletin on the health of the hunger strikers today said that the life of none of them was in danger, but one of them had to be kept almost permanently on drip feed.

The mayors of six Corsican towns were yesterday received by the prefect an dargued the case for the release of the six hunger strikers. The beginning of the new court session in Ajaccio was today disturbed briefly by a demonstration mounted by 30 relatives of the prisoners.

There were nine explosions throughout Corsica during the night, causin ga good deal of damage but no casualties. Nobody has claimed responsibility, but it is believed that they were caused by autonomists to mark the anniversaay of last year's violent incidents.

Veterans throng to funeral of Dönitz

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, Jan 6

To long-discarded lines of *Deutschland, Deutschland über alles*, Grand Admiral Karl Dönitz, the last commander-in-chief of the wartime German Navy and Hitler's successor as head of the Third Reich, was buried today in the snow-covered graveyard at Aumühle near Hamburg.

About 5,000 naval veterans, refugees he had saved from the advancing Soviet Army and members of extreme right-wing groups attended the funeral which was ignored by the West German state. Ironically, he had died honoured more by his former enemies than by his own country.

No military honour, no government or official military representatives attended the funeral of this brilliant commander, who devised and fought the merciless submarine warfare against Britain and its allies.

The Bundeswehr had forbidden officers to wear uniform for the occasion. Karl Dönitz, with his fanatical loyalty to Hitler, his blind devotion to duty and disregard for thousands of sailors' lives, was not an example for today's armed forces.

But in buses, cars and trains mourners came to his funeral, many of them old men with an upright military bearing. Iron Crosses glinting on their breasts and evident nostalgia for what Dönitz stood for.

In subdued voices they criticized the Government's attitude. Two Bundeswehr officers defied the ban on uniform and there were whistles as speakers deplored the state's absence.

For two hours a stream of mourners filed out to the tiny brick Bismarck memorial church in the snowy forest outside Aumühle where Dönitz had lived in seclusion for the past quarter of a century.

There, former naval officers in civilian clothes formed a guard of honour around the coffin, draped with the red, black and gold flag of the Federal Republic and bearing his service dagger. On a cushion were his decorations, Knight of the Iron Cross and Imperial Medal from the First World War. Many had to be almost forcibly removed so the service could begin.

Among the many wreaths from Germany and abroad was one from Herr Rudolf Hess, Hitler's deputy, still serving a lonely life sentence in Spandau prison, Berlin. Dönitz had served 10 years in Spandau for war crimes.

Old naval flags were carried ahead and a veterans' band played as they later moved over to the cemetery. After the coffin was let down into the grave, the mourners spontaneously broke out into the first verse of *Deutschland über alles*, now rejected because of its association with German nationalism and the Nazi past. West Germans now sing the last verse beginning "Einigkeit und Recht und Freiheit" (unity, justice and freedom).

In a tribute, former Rear Admiral Edward Wegener said that by his blind obedience to Hitler, Dönitz had involved himself in the guilt of the Nazi leadership, although, he added, he bore no guilt in a legal sense.

The only comment from political circles was a tribute from Herr Friedrich Zimmermann, parliamentary leader of Herr Franz Josef Strauss's conservative Christian Social Union, who said he had been a brave soldier who did his duty.

West German commentators here were surprised at the tributes paid in Britain to the grand admiral and a couple of newspapers put it down to admirable gallantry towards a defeated enemy. Here, no newspaper had an obituary as long as that in *The Times* and almost all were far more critical than the British press.

The Germans remembered that his dogged determination to carry on the submarine war to the bitter end cost the lives of nearly 30,000 sailors—including his own two sons—and thousands of allied seamen.

They remembered his passionate speeches in support of Hitler to the very end of the war and his failure to his death, to see that he might have acted otherwise.

There is scepticism about his insistence that he had no idea, being at sea most of the time, of the crimes of the Nazi regime. He did not want to know, they suggested.

On the other hand, besides his prowess as a commander, he is credited with saving between two and three million refugees from the east in his ships and, during his 23 days as Hitler's successor, bringing the war to a rapid end.

Several newspapers supported the Bundeswehr's decision not to give the grand admiral military honours. The decision was important, the *Süddeutsche Zeitung* said, "because the Bundeswehr's concept of the citizen in uniform must be different from the very type of office which Dönitz so perfectly and so fatefully embodied—the pure military specialist".

The weekly *Die Zeit* remarked: "He was not a model for the Bundeswehr."

A letter, purporting to have been written by Dönitz some years ago and left with an Italian lawyer to be published after his death, has reached *The Times*.

Couched in imperfect and in places unintelligible English, it was addressed to the British people and urged all Europe to unite against Soviet Communism.

It had been left in the safe-keeping of Signor Ruggero Beradi, a lawyer in La Spezia, by a doctor from the same town, Signor Giampaolo Porta-Casucci, who said he had been in correspondence with Dönitz while he was serving 10 years in prison for war crimes.

Herr Otto Kranzbühler, the Munich lawyer who defended Dönitz at the Nuremburg trials said the letter was "pure fantasy" and if Dönitz had written one he would have known about it. Dönitz's former adjutant, Captain Walter Lüdde-Neurath and staff of the right-wing *National Zeitung* who have also received a similar letter, also seriously doubt its authenticity.

Nuclear power station house bombed

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Jan 6

A house bought by the French electricity authority to house senior staff for the proposed nuclear power station at Plogoff in Finistère was damaged by a small bomb early this morning.

The house, at Pont Croix, was bought only last month and was described by the anti-nuclear defence committee for the area as "the first stone of the power station". Opponents of the project—which is to build the biggest nuclear power station in Europe—have frequently warned they will stop at nothing to hold up its construction.

Le Monde today printed an article by the two socialist deputy mayors of Douarnenez—the nearest large town to the Plogoff site. They claim that an unpublished official review of France's energy requirements shows that savings of 60 million tonnes of petrol equivalent are possible—which is the total amount to be produced by the current nuclear energy programme. "If we were to eliminate waste, the nuclear programme would be unnecessary."

Snowfall delays Mr Trudeau in Vorarlberg

Bregenz, Austria, Jan 6.—Heavy snowfall and poor visibility today forced Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, to delay his planned departure from Lech in Vorarlberg province, where he has spent a skiing vacation.

A police officer at Lech said the adverse weather conditions ruled out a flight by helicopter to take Mr Trudeau and his staff to Salzburg where he was to have had a meeting with Dr Bruno Kreisky, the Austrian Chancellor, before departure.

Snow has been falling in the Lech area for three days.—AP.

Dog's 48 days under rubble

Avellino, Jan 6.—A wire-haired terrier, named Reno was dug out alive today from the ruins of his home in Avellino, 48 days after it was destroyed in the south Italian earthquake.

A fire brigade spokesman said Reno's owner, a girl of 19, revisited the remains of her home and heard faint whining under the rubble. She called the firemen. Reno had survived on rainwater—Reuter.

Iran counter-attack victory is wishful thinking, Iraqis claim

From Tewfik Mishlawi
Beirut, Jan 6

Iraq and Iran made conflicting claims today about a counter-offensive which the Iranians say they launched yesterday to drive Iraqi forces from strategic positions in the Iranian oil province of Khuzestan.

While Iran reported the obliteration of two Iraqi armoured brigades and the capture of 2,000 prisoners, Iraq said the claim was a "myth and wishful thinking".

Neither country's claim could be independently verified and western journalists have been barred from on-the-spot reporting from either side of the war front.

The Tehran radio and television announcements of "glorious military victories" by the Iranian forces have been received with considerable excitement in Iran.

Thousands lined the streets of Ahvaz, provincial capital of Khuzestan, hailing the capture of thousands of Iraqi soldiers, Tehran radio said. In Tehran the rooftops were crowded with people chanting "Allah Akbar" (God is great).

Although the Iraqi state media have ridiculed the Iranian counter-offensive claims, they admitted that Iranian forces were "trying to harass our forward positions". They said Iraqi forces, supported by artillery and helicopter gunships, were "thwarting Iranian attempts to achieve military gains".

For more than a month Iraqi troops, who invaded Iranian territory on September 22, have been taking a defensive stance. Their leaders said their targets had been achieved but recent reports from Iraq said the present position was imposed by the weather.

In Baghdad, Iraq reported fierce battles with Iranian forces a few hours after the Iranian claim. The Iraqi high command said fighting was still raging around the besieged Iranian town of Susangerd, which Iranian forces had attacked from three directions yesterday.

The Iraqis described this as the main part of the Iranian counter-offensive and said Iraqi troops had beaten back other attacks at Ahvaz to the east and Gilan-e-Gharb to the north.

Iranian communiqués today said that more than 800 Iraqi soldiers were killed and 345 others wounded in the past 48 hours. Iraq, on the other hand, said its forces have killed 100 Iranian troops and destroyed 21 tanks for the loss of 11 Iraqi "martyrs".

Pushed by Ayatollah: The claimed Iranian counter-offensive was planned on December 20 by Ayatollah Khomeini and military leaders, President Bani-Sadr wrote in today's edition of the *Islamic Revolution*.

Mr Bani-Sadr said the Ayatollah had asked the military men why the offensive "which has been discussed for some time", had not yet been launched.

He also reported the Ayatollah as saying that "if we do not go ahead with the offensive, morale in the country could be upset and we could witness the birth of a danger before which I myself and the President would be impotent".

Meanwhile Pars news agency says that five extreme leftwing spy networks working for Iraq since the beginning of the war, have been uncovered.—Agence France-Presse.

Ayatollah puts his faith in Algeria over hostages

Tehran, Jan 6.—Ayatollah Khomeini told his Government today to accept undertakings by Algeria aimed at solving Iran's hostages dispute with the United States, Mr Muhammad Ali Rajai, the Prime Minister, said. Algeria has been acting as an intermediary during the crisis.

Mr Rajai, answering questions on state television, did not say whether he was referring to new moves by the Algerians or whether the Ayatollah was simply giving his blessing to the Algerians as mediators.

Questioned about the hostages issue as he and his Cabinet left a meeting with Ayatollah Khomeini, Mr Rajai said: "We explained to the Imam the latest United States view and also Algeria's suggestion that it undertakes to solve the problems between us and America.

"The Imam told us to accept this (Algerian) undertaking. I hope we will announce the remaining issues soon".

Three Algerians working on the hostages dispute, who delivered the latest American proposals on Friday, today met Iranian government officials but did not receive a new Iranian response, diplomatic sources said.

Informed sources also said that the Tehran Government could soon give its official reaction to Washington's most recent proposals for freeing the 52 hostages.

A leading member of Iran's Islamic Republican Party said yesterday that the United States had failed to give acceptable financial guarantees to secure the hostages' release.—Reuter and Agence France-Presse.

Israeli paper responds to Egyptian press ban

From Moshe Brilliant
Tel Aviv, Jan 6

The *Jerusalem Post*, in a leading article prepared for tomorrow's edition, assures Egypt that the paper has no ulterior motives in its reporting of that country's affairs. The article follows the Egyptian Government's ban on the paper's correspondents after Mr Anan Safidi, the Middle East Affairs editor, reported a power struggle among the Cairo authorities.

Mr Safadi, who spent a week in Egypt and returned on Friday, wrote yesterday that President Sadat was considering a Cabinet reshuffle aimed at thwarting Mr Hosni Mubarak, the Vice President, from assuming too much power.

The *Post* article said that a better understanding of how the Israeli press worked must be part of the normalization process of relations between the two countries.

In a second report today Mr Safadi speculated on the consequences of Mr Mubarak's rise to power. He said Egyptian officials interviewed had agreed that Mr Mubarak would not scrap the Middle East peace process, but that he would restrict the normalization process with Israel while the Palestinian problem remained unsolved.

The officials also said Mr Mubarak intended to improve Egyptian relations with other Arab states and might even revive ties with the Soviet Union.

In Israel, a television series on the history of Zionism opened tonight against a rumble of protests by Jews from Islamic countries who alleged ethnic discrimination.

A group calling itself "Zionism for Equality" lost an eleventh-hour attempt to stop tonight's showing when the Jerusalem High Court rejected its suit.

Jews of Middle-Eastern and North African stock, who now comprise the majority of the Israeli population, had hardly been involved in the political Zionist movement which led to the establishment of Israel in 1948.

Oriental Jews, living under colonial rule last century were unable to express themselves politically, Mr Shaul Ben Simchon, a trade union leader, said. He is one of the initiators of the High Court suit.

Zionism was primarily a spiritual and religious movement. In this respect, the Eastern Jews were in the forefront, he said.

"It's politically unwise to show Zionism as a reaction to pogroms in Europe,"

Mr Yosef Lapid, director-general of the broadcasting authority, said he was sure no one would have any complaints after seeing the series. He said the producers had gone out of their way to stress the important place of Eastern Jews in the establishment of Israel.

The 19 sequences of the series called *Pillar of Fire* will be shown weekly.

Members work full speed to modernize armed forces with vastly increased budgets

Pressure grows for overall Asean defence agreement

This is the last of four articles from David Watts, Our Singapore Correspondent, on the Association of South-East Asian Nations. The previous pieces appeared yesterday, on Monday and in Foreign Report on Friday.

The Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean) does not have an overall defence agreement to parallel its economic one; but in the years since its formation pressures for some kind of military arrangement have been growing.

In the past 18 months those pressures have intensified to the point where most of the countries in the association are now working full speed on military modernization programmes involving new equipment and bases and vastly enlarged military budgets.

Repeated disclaimers that Asean would ever become a military alliance are becoming less and less credible. Yet there are cogent political and ethnic reasons why such a multinational pact is unlikely ever to embrace all the Asean countries in a single agreement.

Since the end of the Vietnam war, and more particularly since the American debacle at the time of the revolution in Iran, the countries of South-East Asia have been well aware that should any of them face a serious threat from the communist block nations in the area the best that they could hope for would be improved supplies of weapons and ammunition, political and moral support and very little else.

The United States Seventh Fleet is always available as a deterrent to any would-be usurper of South-East Asian sovereignty and the Americans might even deploy aircraft in support of its regional allies. But to expect anything beyond that has become unrealistic, unless the incoming Reagan Administration drastically changes the course of United States policy.

After the American withdrawal from Vietnam and Kampuchea in 1975 it appeared that the region might stabilize militarily. But the invasion of Kampuchea by Vietnam at the beginning of 1979 and Vietnam's subsequent incursion across the Thai border last June aroused fears that the Vietnamese might well decide to annex Thailand at some date in the future and later move down the Malay peninsular to Singapore.

The response of the South-East Asian countries can be judged from the increase in military spending in 1980 over 1979: Singapore's defence spending has increased by 27.2 per cent, Indonesia's by 45 per cent and Malaysia's by 140 per cent.

The enormous Malaysian increase in spending results from the Government's new policy of changing the Army from a fundamentally anti-insurgent force to a conventional Army employing heavy tanks for the first time. The front-line strength of the Air Force is more than doubled and a completely new base has been built in the north-east of the country.

Asean defence spending in 1980 (in US dollars)	Percentage increase over 1979
Indonesia 2,100m	45
Malaysia 887.8m	140
Philippines 778.5m	3.3
Singapore 598.9m	27.2
Thailand 1,100.9m	17.2

Asean military manpower
Indonesia 241,800
Malaysia 66,000
Philippines 112,800
Singapore 42,000
Thailand 30,800

Asean combat aircraft: 448

The Air Force is buying 80 second-hand McDonnell-Douglas Skyhawk fighter-bombers which are to be refurbished before supplementing the Northrop F5 Freedom Fighters which the Air Force already operates.

The stress that regional governments put on updating and upgrading their air power is illustrated by the fact that Thailand is seeking further F5s as well as strike aircraft. Singapore is expected to purchase more F5s, while Indonesia has just received the first batch of Hawk strike/trainers ordered from Britain.

During the year from 1978 to 1979 American military sales to Thailand jumped from $100m (£42m) to four times that figure. This included 50 M48 tanks, armoured personnel carriers and transport aircraft.

But even with this burgeoning military strength, were it to be deployed jointly under an Asean banner, it would be no match for the Vietnamese who have armed forces of more than a million men and large numbers of American aircraft left behind at the end of the Vietnam war, though the serviceability of many of them must be in doubt.

Even if such unification were politically possible there would be enormous problems of integrating the forces of the various countries with their wide variety of equipment their different military backgrounds, not to mention the problems of language.

There is too much residual suspicion and jealousy for the armed forces of all the Asean countries to be able to unify their activities, so the cooperation is likely to centre on bilateral military relations.

The principal defence arrangements remain with powers outside the region: the United States has links with Thailand and the Philippines through the Manila Pact, and the five-power defence agreement that links Singapore, Malaysia, Australia, New Zealand and Britain and which Australia is instrumental in trying to revive with regular exercises.

Australia, too, tries to make up for Singapore's lack of air and ground space for military training by providing Skyhawk training facilities. Malaysia retains too much distrust of Singapore's intentions to allow training of the Singapore armed forces on its territory.

The most obvious potential guarantor of Asean's defence, superficially, would appear to be Japan, now building up its armed forces. Japan would certainly have the motivation for such cooperation but it is as yet by no means clear that the perceived requirements of the Japanese armed forces are going to be met even in the domestic context.

Though there would be interest in guaranteeing the continuity of Japanese oil suplies through the Straits of Malacca the Second World War is still too recent and the Japanese are far from building the necessary confidence in political relations with Asean.

More than one Asean leader, commenting on the Japanese defence build-up, has made it clear that it will be welcomed so long as it is confined to Japan's immediate area of interest around the home islands.

So, should Vietnam prove as adventurous as some believe, it will be a long time before the countries of Asean are capable of putting up anything more than a token resistance.



Mr Reagan and Señor López Portillo cross the Cordova Bridge towards Mexico.

US 'too weak' for new Salt pact

From David Cross
Washington, Jan 6

There was "very little point" in the United States negotiating a new strategic arms limitation agreement with the Soviet Union from its present position of military weakness, Mr Caspar Weinberger, President-elect Reagan's nominee for Secretary of Defence, said today.

Instead, the new Administration should wait until it had set the country firmly back on the path towards nuclear equivalence with Moscow, Mr Weinberger told a meeting of the Senate armed services committee. The Defence Secretary-designate was among a first batch of Mr Reagan's Cabinet nominees to face congressional confirmation hearings for their new jobs.

Mr Weinberger described the present imbalance in Soviet and American strategic forces as both "very marked and very worrying". It would be one of his two principal priorities as Secretary of Defence to start catching up with the Soviet Union "quickly and resolutely", he said.

The Defence Secretary designate made it very clear that he fully supported Mr Reagan's view that the strategic arms limitation agreement negotiated by President Carter was too flawed to be ratified by the Senate.

He said he thought the new Administration would need at least six months to work out its defence policies before approaching Moscow with an offer for new negotiations. Any new agreement would have to be a "vast improvement" on the so-called Salt 2 pact, he added.

Asked about his attitude towards defence spending by America's allies in Europe and Japan, Mr Weinberger said he intended to keep "pressing" the importance he attached to the allies sharing as much of the defence burden as they could.

He blamed part of the allies' past reluctance on "uncertainty" about the course of American policy. If Washington had a "consistent" policy and demonstrated its strength and reliability, the allies would be much more willing to participate in the common defence effort, he believed.

Mr Weinberger said his other main priority in enhancing the United States defence position was to improve the readiness of the country's existing forces. Many of them were under-strength and were experiencing fuel and ammunition shortages, he said. Both their training and their equipment had to be improved.

Members of the armed services committee listened respectfully to Mr Weinberger's responses to their questions and appeared to agree with his every pronouncement. His approval by the committee was expected to be virtually unanimous after such a friendly reception.

The President-elect, who arrived in Washington from California last night, by way of Mexico, today announced the appointment of Mr James Brady as White House Press Secretary. Miss Karna Small, a former television news announcer, will be his Deputy.

Border meetings: President-elect Reagan and President José López Portillo of Mexico have agreed to meet periodically in border towns to discuss issues causing friction

Mr Reagan told a Washington audience on his return from two hours of talks with Señor López Portillo at the Mexican border town of Ciudad Juarez that their meeting had been "very successful and wonderful".

Middle East policy, page 10
Leading article, page 11

Geneva talks on Namibia in jeopardy

From Nicholas Ashford
Geneva, Jan 6

The United Nations sponsored pre-implementation talks on Namibia (South-West Africa) are due to get under way tomorrow with no sign that the main parties involved are prepared to talk to each other or even sit at the same table together.

So far the South African delegation—which is attempting to play a low-key role at the conference—is refusing to talk directly to the nationalist South-West Africa People's Organization (Swapo), although there is widespread expectation the two sides may hold informal contacts.

For its part Swapo has rejected attempts by the most prominent of the eight internal Namibian parties, the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA), to be accorded equal status at the talks. Swapo says it will only deal with the DTA and the other internal parties as part of the South African delegation led by Mr Danie Hough, the South African-appointed administrator-general of the territory.

A proposed seating plan by the United Nations would place the South Africans and the internal parties on one side of a square table and Swapo on the other. The other two sides of the table would be occupied by the United Nations and by the multitude of observers attending the meeting.

The observers represent the five front line states—Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia—the five members of the Western contact group—Britain, the United States, France, West Germany and Canada—Nigeria and the Organization of African Unity.

Mr Theo Ben Gurirab, Swapo's spokesman, said today the organization had come to Geneva to deal directly with South Africa on the implementation of the United Nations settlement plan for Namibia. "A failure of the meeting would be South Africa's responsibility" he claimed.

Death toll: A total of 81 Swapo guerrillas have been killed by South African forces in attacks on their bases in the past week, it was stated in Windhoek today (Ray Kennedy writes from Johannesburg. The toll indicates a marked escalation in the bush war.

Sex package protest to Mr Suzuki

From Peter Hazelhurst
Tokyo, Jan 6

Mr Zenko Suzuki, the Japanese Prime Minister, is expected to face an embarrassing protest against package sex tours of Japanese businessmen in the Philippines when he arrives in Manila on Thursday on the first leg of a 12-day visit to the five members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations.

Japanese officials admitted today that the Government is aware that more than 50 religious bodies and student groups in the Philippines have already signed a petition asking the Japanese Government to put a stop to the thriving business of organized sex tours of Manila and other fleshpots.

It says: "Dear Mr Prime Minister, your forthcoming visit to the Asean countries will be greatly marred by Japanese businessmen who invade the region in groups on sex tours and humiliate Filipino women.

An estimated 1,500,000 Japanese men toured the Philippines and other nations of south-east Asia last year.

Whites blamed for arms raid near Salisbury

From Our Correspondent
Salisbury, Jan 6

A cache of weapons has been removed from an army barracks here by a group of white men using forged papers and wearing Zimbabwe Army uniforms, it was stated by a military source tonight. It is believed the weapons have been flown to South Africa.

The weapons, including more than 100 rifles, machine-guns, pistols and rocket launchers, disappeared between Christmas Eve and December 29.

It appears that five men presented themselves at Cranbourne Barracks, near Salisbury, and produced forged requisition papers for the arms. They were then loaded on two lorries that had been stolen from a barracks near by and driven to an airstrip.

Cranbourne Barracks belonged to the Rhodesian Light Infantry, until it was disbanded last year.

Man accused of Lennon killing to plead insanity

From Our Own Correspondent
New York, Jan 6

Mark Chapman, accused of murdering John Lennon, the former Beatle, pleaded not guilty in a short court appearance here today. His lawyer said his defence would be insanity.

The judge appointed two psychiatrists and a psychologist to examine the prisoner's state of mind. He has already received long psychiatric examination and supervision at Bellevue hospital in Manhattan since his arrest.

Wreaths and flowers are still being placed outside the New York flats where Lennon lived.

Defiant judge takes three girls to all-white school

From Michael Leapman
New York, Jan 6

The legal wrangle over where three white Louisiana girls should go to school continued today with another victory for Mr Richard Lee, a state judge.

He accompanied the trio to an all-white school in the rural village of Buckeye after Mr Nauman Scott, a federal judge, had ordered them to attend a mainly black school at Alexandria, 15 miles away.

Yesterday Mr Lee instructed state police to escort the girls to the Buckeye school to make sure they were enrolled there. The policemen did so but later said they would not be there again today because they had been ordered to stand down by Mr Scott.

Mr Lee decided to go personally, carrying his own court order and accompanied by a constable, a court official.

He insists that the matter has nothing to do with the federal court. "These children and any other citizens of the United States have the right to live and reside and make their homes where they wish", he said.

Mr Scott says he is enforcing a Supreme Court ruling that schools must be desegrated. He has threatened to fine the girls' parents and guardians and school officials $500 (about £200) a day if they do not go to the Alexandria school.

Sit-in protests by Polish farmers

From Dessa Trevisan
Warsaw, Jan 6

A month of truce on the Polish labour scene has been disrupted as the latent social conflict surfaced again with trouble over free Saturdays. This comes on top of trouble in south-east Poland where the farmers are occupying local government buildings and threatening to go on strike unless talks begin this evening.

The authorities in south-east Poland are evidently set on obstructing the creation of farmers' union branches. This provoked new tension and several hundred angry farmers have occupied the local government buildings in Ustrzyki Dolne in protest over alleged official harassment.

They have been joined by several hundred more in Rzeszow who have occupied the seats of the regional council of the old trade union and are demanding the transfer of the funds of the disbanded union.

By noon, the Solidarity Union in Przemysl staged an hour's warning strike in support of the farmers. Soon after that government negotiators arrived and talks began on the farmers' demands.

The farmers threatened to call selective strikes and to call further strikes throughout the region unless an agreement is reached by the end of this week.

They demand that the region's Federation of Workers and Farmers, affiliated to Solidarity, should be registered forthwith, and are protesting against police harassment designed to prevent the federation from functioning.

The region is close to the Soviet border and is the scene of official hunting parties. The farmers are demanding that the Arlamowo government hunting reserve where Mr Edward Gierek the former party leader, used to take foreign guests, including President Brezhnev and President Giscard d'Estaing, should be open for ordinary citizens and its surrounding hunting lodges converted into public rest homes and workers hostels.

The question of a five-day week was brought to a head when the Government announced that only three out of five Saturdays this month would be free. This was done while negotiations with the unions were still going on and the unions saw it as a breach of agreement and an attempt to impose a decision.

Last summer, only the miners of Jastrzebie obtained a hard commitment by the authorities on a five-day working week. Other agreements reached with the strikers on a working week were left to negotiation which the unions accepted. But the Government sprung the decision and the unions rejected it. The Solidarity's Warsaw branch told its members that unless an agreement was reached with the government, all Saturdays this month should be regarded as paid holidays.

Mr Lech Walesa, the Solidarity leader, was last night summoned to Warsaw for talks with Mr Mieczyslaw Jagielski, Deputy Prime Minister, which lasted five hours. These discussions were said to have been conducted in a good atmosphere.

The Government gave an assurance that it was not backing out of its commitments but wished to introduce a five-day week gradually because of the economic situation.

Mr Walesa returned to Gdansk where a meeting of the national committee of the Solidarity unions is due to be held tomorrow.

A statement from the Jastrzebie Solidarity Union accused the Government of delaying tactics. It also rejected any compromise on free Saturdays. But it stated that the unions wanted to help the Government to lift the country out of the crisis.

The Government has proposed 26 Saturdays off in a year but the Solidarity unions rejected this. The two sides are now seeking a compromise. In the present atmosphere the unions seem to be more willing to share responsibility but they also demand full information on the state of the nation

All these questions will be on the agenda of the Solidarity national committee meeting. The issues include the demand for the registration of the rural Solidarity union which the court has postponed indefinitely, the release of people detained for political beliefs, the publication of a weekly newspaper which is due to begin soon, and the distribution of the funds left after the central council of the old official trade unions was disbanded at the end of last year.

OVERSEAS

Tribal elders run into conflict with ways of modern Malaysia

From M. G. G. Pillai
Kuala Lumpur, Jan 6

The system of traditional native chiefs in Malaysia, which form an informal but important level of administration alongside the modern administrative apparatus Britain imposed a century ago, is being put under dangerous strain.

The system has worked well up to now with the state accepting the authority of the chiefs on matters relating to *adat* (customary law). It has also not interfered in the selection of chiefs and tribal elders.

But now a rift has developed in Negri Sembilan state between the native chiefs of the territorial district of *luak* of Jelebu and the state administration over the selection of its territorial chief or *undang*.

Observers versed in *adat* laws say the outcome of this could have repercussions outside the state and lead to a continuing confrontation between the native leaders and the state administration.

Seven of the eight members of the Dewan Lembaga, or Council of Tribal Elders, objected to the appointment of the new *undang*, a 42-year-old headmaster, Mr Musa Wahab. They claimed that their chief had not discussed the appointment with them and that Mr Musa did not come from the traditionally approved families from among whom the *undangs* are selected by the Datuk Lembaga.

The chief thereupon expelled the seven from the council and stripped them of their traditional titles in a move which, the seven say, violated *adat* laws.

But their appeal to the Majlis Adat—the Court of Appeal for customary laws—over their expulsion and the appointment was rejected. So was one to the civil courts, which said they had no jurisdiction.

The seven got together last week and appointed their own *undang*, a 67-year-old government pensioner named Mr Syed Zin Alhaj bin Syed Husin. Observers here say that the move would leave a trail of bitterness in the *luak* and the *state, whatever* the outcome, since they say the appointment of Mr Musa Wahab appeared to contain significant departures from *adat* law.

The traditional chiefs have a role to fulfil in all the nine sultanates in Malaysia, but it is strongest in Negri Sembilan. Jelubu is one of nine *luaks* that form Negri Sembilan, and the *undangs* meet to elect the state's ruler, known as the Yang dipertuan Besar or Yamtuan. They have the power to depose him as well.

Most of the tribal elders and the *undangs* in Negri Sembilan as elsewhere, are relatively poorly educated, said one official skilled in *adat* laws, "although their knowledge of power and their ability to use it would put many a professional politician to shame."

The seven men allege outside interference in the selection of their territorial chief, pointing to the fact that the state's Chief Minister, Datuk Rais Yatim, is from Jelubu and Mr Musa is his close friend.

The crisis will have to be solved according to the state's *adat* laws, but technically the seven men have committed treason by going against the decision of the Majlis Adat. Indications are that suitable punishments are being considered, the most serious being exile from the state for life.

But the issue has split the *luak* right down the middle and observers say it is a classic case of friction between native leaders and those brought up in the Western mould.

The politicians hope the problem will go away, but they have to live with it. About a year ago the Sultan of Pahang state wanted to remove one of his territorial chiefs, Datuk Hamzah Abu Samah, who also sat in the Federal Cabinet as the Attorney-General. He was dissuaded from doing so, but Datuk Hamzah was dropped from the Cabinet when the Sultan was elected Malaysia's king soon afterwards.

Republicans brief Taiwan on Peking discussions

Taipei, Jan 6.—President Chiang Ching-kuo of Taiwan today met Mr Theodore Stevens, a United States Senator, and Mrs Anna Chennault, a Republican official, for an hour after their three-day visit to Peking at the weekend.

No details of the conversation were disclosed but Mr Stevens and Mrs Chennault were expected to have told the Nationalist President, among other things, about their two-hour discussions with Mr Deng Xiaoping, the Communist Party Vice-Chairman.

They are the first United States Republican officials to visit China since Mr Ronald Reagan's presidential election victory in November.

Mr Stevens is deputy majority whip and chairman of the defence appropriations Subcommittee in the Senate, while Mrs Chennault, widow of General Claire Chennault, a Second World War "Flying Tiger" commander in China, is a member of the Republican finance committee. She is of Chinese origin.

The Peking visit by the Americans, both supporters of Taiwan, has prompted speculation that they were paving the way for peace talks between Taipei and Peking. This they have refuted.

However, a "new channel" had been opened between the rival Chinese nationalists and communists, a Western observer asserted here today.

Whether that channel will be used, fully, partially or not at all, will be determined by the development of the triangular relations between Taipei, Peking and Washington, the observer said.

Senator Stevens and Mrs Chennault this morning laid wreaths in front of General Chennault's bronze statue in a local park.

At the Foreign Ministry they had talks with Mr Chu Fu-sung, the Foreign Minister, and Mr Fredrick Chien, the Deputy Foreign Minister. They also met Admiral Soon Chang-chih, Chief of the General Staff, Mr Wong Yi-ting, Economic Minister, and Premier Sun Yun-suan. — Agence France-Presse.

Chaos as Uganda drivers seek petrol allocation

From Our Correspondent
Nairobi, Jan 6

A decree making motorists register for their fuel allocation has caused chaos in Kampala, the Ugandan capital. Queues of vehicles up to three miles long jammed the approaches to the disused Kololo airstrip, where registration is taking place.

The Ugandan authorities say motorists will be allowed to draw fuel only at a named petrol station. This is an attempt to halt the flourishing black market in which petrol is sold at up to 20 times its official price.

Severe shortages have affected Kampala and many other parts of Uganda for several weeks. The Government says it has now increased the amount of foreign exchange allocated to buy fue.

15 Turks held in raid by security police

Adana, Jan 6. — Security forces in the southern Turkish province of Adana captured 15 suspected members of an outlawed leftist organization, a martial law communiqué said today.

It did not identify the organization but said that the group would be charged with wounding a lieutenant during a May Day demonstration last year, writing political slogans on walls, distributing extremist leaflets, and "conspiring to overthrow the constitutional regime in Turkey by violent means".

Adana, Turkey's fourth largest city, was affected by political and sectarian violence before the generals' coup on September 12.—AP.

Constitution is changed for one Sri Lankan politician

From Our Correspondent
Colombo, Jan 6

The Sri Lankan Parliament tonight amended the constitution by 134 votes to seven in order to increase the number of seats by one.

It took this step after the Supreme Court ruled that legislation to increase the membership of Parliament from 168 to 169 to enable two members to represent the Kalawana constituency would be a violation of the constitution.

The court also said such a change would require a two thirds majority and would have to be endorsed by a national referendum. Mr Ranasinghe Premadasa, the Prime Minister, said government would abide by the ruling

In tonight's debate opposition Freedom Party speakers were frequently booed and heckled and a suggestion by Mr W. Dahanayake, the former Prime Minister, at an earlier meeting for a free vote was refused.

Mr Anura Bandaranaike, speaking for the opposition, said that if the Government could resort to amending the constitution to accommodate one member of Parliament whose election had been declared void by the Supreme Court, he shuddered to think of what it might do when its term was due to expire in 1983.

The Government, which was celebrating 50 years of franchise this year and which had invited the Queen for the celebration had reduced democracy to a joke, he said.

After the changes enacted tonight the Kalawana constituency will have two members. The Speaker had already ruled that Mr Abeyratne Banda Pilapitiya, who was unseated by the Supreme Court on an election petition but who was subsequently nominated by the ruling United National Party under the new constitution, is the legal member for Kalawana.

Meanwhile the elections commissioner had arranged for a by-election on January 12. The successful candidate at this by-election, under the provisions of the old constitution, will also be a member.

The United National Party is not contesting the by-election.

THE ARTS

Moving curtain to the Offenbach centenary

Les Contes d'Hoffmann
Teatro Comunale,
Florence

John Higgins

Virtually the last statement on *The Tales of Hoffmann* in the Offenbach centenary year just ended came from Florence. The cautionary adverb is needed for chronological accuracy because the *Hoffmann* in Leeds, already described by Paul Griffiths on this page, postdated that of the Teatro Comunale by a few days. At the close of a substantial evening, some four and a half hours including intervals, Nicklausse leads Hoffmann by one hand across the empty stage, carefully carrying in the other the glass of wine which for so long has been that storyteller's inspiration. Together they part the gauze curtain and look out at the audience, Hoffmann's audience.

As Hoffmann walks slowly towards the footlights and down a ladder into the orchestra pit the stage gradually refills. His four loves (Stella, Olympia, Antonia, Giulietta) come on first, followed by his adversary, Lindorf. Hoffmann moves through the stalls casting many a backward glance, whether rueful, phlegmatic, or even perhaps contented is not revealed. By the time the stage is completely full he has vanished into the darkness. Perhaps it is to spin another tale or perhaps to go, like Offenbach after this opera, to his grave. Hoffmann, This Is Your Life.

The close of Luca Ronconi's production is also its pinnacle. When it was first announced that Ronconi was to direct *Hoffmann* in Florence most people assumed that he would opt for something striking, iconoclastic. Ronconi has a justified reputation for standing operas, and plays for that matter, on their heads to see what falls out of their pockets. And few works are more malleable in the producer's hands than *Hoffmann*, as the past year has proved.

The beginning was in pure Ronconi *bravura* style. Nicklausse brings the drunken Hoffmann back to Luther's Tavern in a carriage drawn by a horse upside down between the shafts. Hoffmann's head and shoulders are also hanging upside down out of the window, so that he gets an inverted view of the world. Or is it merely a case of flogging a *dead horse on the belly?* Thereafter Ronconi narrates the opera much according to tradition, although he follows the Salzburg example of restoring the role of Nicklausse to its proper strength: reinstating the Olympia act aria, which is all too often cut, and presenting Nicklausse as much more than merely a faithful and puritanical companion. He is Hoffmann's Muse, an inspiration far more potent and desirable than the women the poet chases and loses.

It is possible though that elsewhere the wings of Ronconi's imagination have been forcibly clipped. The Florence *Hoffmann* has gone through a number of vicissitudes since it was originally put on the drawing board. Alfredo Kraus, who was cast in the title role, dropped out early on. Possibly he was influenced by Florence's decision to use the new Oeser version of the opera, which extends the tenor's part considerably and requires him to be on stage for nearly the whole of a long evening. The next tenor engaged, Peter Jurgen Schmidt from East Germany, also cancelled, leaving the Teatro Comunale with their third choice, Neil Schioff, who managed to oblige with a triumphant performance.

Among the ladies, Christine Eda Pierre, a first class Antonia, as Paris has heard, also had to leave the cast. But the biggest blow of all came when Riccardo Muti, Florence's musical director who, with Massimo Bogianckino, is the driving force behind the city's musical renaissance, retired because of hepatitis. Some of the Italian newspapers, including *La Nazione* last weekend, have been claiming that Muti is intending to loosen his ties with the city, a disaster for Florence, which is as much Muti's domain as Milan is that of Abbado. Quite a lot too has been made of an alleged quarrel between Muti and Ronconi.

With all these attendant tribulations it is surprising that *Hoffmann* is as good as it is. For that most of the credit goes to Neil Schicoff. The young American tenor's appearances in Britain have indicated a good deal of promise; Florence hears the achievement. He has much in common with Alfredo Kraus: a dapper appearance on stage, and a fine cutting edge to the voice which slices through the auditorium with more effect than some of those with "bigger" tenors.

Schicoff's Hoffmann is a youngish man—the German poet died in his mid-forties—not yet too ravaged by drink. Wine is still the mistress and not yet the master. He pursues his dreams with an almost adolescent enthusiasm: blinded by Olympia, spurned by Antonia, who prefers the sound of her own voice to the love of another, and finally humiliated by Giulietta as she glides off in her gondola. Let him go, let him tarry, let him sink or let him swim. So Hoffmann returns again and again to the stable things in his life: his Muse and companion, Nicklausse, his wine, and the clutch of musical instruments which Jean-Paul Chambas's set places carefully on one side of Luther's below-stage tavern.

The voice gives the impression that it can go on for ever, with the tone as fresh and clear towards the end of the evening in "O Dieu, de quelle ivresse" as it was at the beginning. There is a lightness and ease in the timbre which suggest that Mr Schicoff could well concentrate on the French repertory rather than the Italian one, with which *he is* mainly associated.

Elena Zilio's Nicklausse, dressed in black tails and white dickey, looks as though she could have walked straight off the British music-hall of 60 years ago, almost a dead ringer for Ella Shields as Burlington Bertie from Bow. *She sounded* particularly well in Nicklausse's ironic number about Olympia, "Voyez-la sous son eventail", also restored by Salzburg, which points out that when Hoffmann puts on his rose-tinted glasses the scales drop from the eyes of Nicklausse. Sesto Bruscantini had less success with the quadruple baritone role: a singer so long associated with buffo parts has a hard time putting on the mask of villainy, although he came close to it in "Tourne, tourne, miroir", used instead of Dapertutto's non-authentic "Scintille diamant".

Arleen Auger's Olympia was by far the most satisfactory of Hoffmann's three singing loves, with her bright, clean line and wittily musical movements. Catherine Malfitano's Antonia, who according to the programme lives in Monaco rather than Munich, although no one would have guessed it from the dull set, was too squally for comfort. Nor did Livia Budai, substituting for Brigitte Fassbänder, bring the right degree of sensuality to Giulietta as the last and, in Ronconi's view, the most possible of Hoffmann's *amours*.

Antonia de Almeida is an Offenbach scholar and a safe conductor. Too safe, for one longed for Riccardo Muti to enthuse the Florence orchestra and infuse them with that sense of theatrical excitement which has become his trademark over the years.

And so, with 1980 over, how stands *Hoffmann?* Salzburg had the most imaginative and visually dazzling staging; Covent Garden received far less than its critical due and cast *Hoffmann's objets adorés* better than anyone else; Florence managed the final curtain best of all and proved that Domingo is not quite the only Hoffmann in the world. Nicklausse has been firmly restored to the prominent place which is his by right. But the question of single or triple casting of the soprano roles remains unresolved and so does the ordering of the acts. The answer, surely, is to play *Hoffmann* according to the resources of the house: if Antonia is the star then keep her until last on the *bonne bouche* principle, even though this is the most difficult of the acts to stage. Practical considerations come *above all others*—a *maxim* which Offenbach, supreme man of the theatre, might well have approved, since his own wishes are never likely to be known.

Offenbach looks down on the world of Hoffmann (*Le Monde illustré*)

Kovacic/Schiff
St John's/Radio 3

Paul Griffiths

Even to the radio listener, which I was on this occasion, the BBC's Monday lunchtime concerts are rarely less than special, not *least because the* straight hour format makes for programmes that are meaty and compact. This week's was no exception. The centrepiece was Schoenberg's last instrumental composition his Fantasy for violin and piano, bounded by two sonatas related alike in key and in the slow-fast-slow-fast pattern of their movements: Bach's in E major and Schubert's in A major.

If the choice of music was thoughtful, then so too throughout was the playing of Ernst Kovacic and Andras Schiff. Where other violinists today aim for a ballpoint finesse and homogeneity of line, Mr Kovacic draws his phrases in pencil; there is a softer texture to his art. At the same time, one feels his mind travels with everything he does, that nothing is simply sketched in or thrown off with mechanical *virtuosity*, that *purpose* and feeling are involved together with technique when he bends his tone into hardness for emphasis, or stabs in a lone high note with perfect accuracy, or shades things with a misty greyness.

The Schoenberg gained much *from his style. Its phrasing can* seem too orderly in the balance of question and answer, but Mr Kovacic found in it a very varied rhetoric of ideas gently turned and probed, arguments slapped down, exclamations and even jokes. He was excellently partnered by Mr Schiff, who realized that his job was not to debate with the violin but to provide a platform and a commentary.

Working together more equally, the two musicians gave a beautiful performance of the Bach sonata, Mr Kovacic songful and Mr Schiff happily not ashamed of pianistic rhythm and soft-focus pedal effects. The Schubert duo also contained some marvellous moments, but here the players tempted each other to exaggerate feeling to a point nearing absurdity and, in the finale, reaching it.

PLG Young Artists
Purcell Room

William Mann

London's musical new year now regularly begins with the Park Lane Group's week of recitals *devoted to young artists and* twentieth-century music. Over the years it has become predictably worth looking forward to, the interpretative standard always high, the choice of music intelligent, motivated by enthusiasm and knowledge. Hair shirts may be left at home: these recitals, we have learnt, are *meant for musical* enjoyment.

The series opened on Monday with a programme shared between a pianist and a clarinet-player; as usual it was respectably attended: Keith Burston, aged 22, launched the proceedings, with Debussy's *Estampes*, very delicately unfolded, almost pussyfoot, not really clear, nor attentive to line, but intent on half-lights and pastel shades.

He returned in shirt sleeves with mittens on his hands, having put away shyness with his dinner jacket, for Stockhausen's tenth Piano Piece, the one full composition, his Fantasy for clusters. To them he did champion justice, timing and nuancing the composer's bold effects with real sensibility, and a strong feeling for the music's pulse and, pauses included, its *poetic line*.

John Corbett, also 22, at once commanded attention with his assured, eloquently moulded account of Boulez's peripatetic *Domaines* for solo clarinet, the six music-stands embracing the width and length of the Purcell Room. His tone was round and warm, his agility remarkable, like the clarity of his fake chords.

He was equally responsive to the gentle musing of Birtwistle's *Verses*, and the epigrammatic lyricism, power and passion not excepted, of Berg's four pieces, in which Jelka Klemencic was his pianistic partner, tactful yet *firm in support. They ended* with a delightful *jeu d'ésprit*, Humphrey Searle's "Cat Variations", brilliantly concise, witty to march the Eliot poems evoked, and exquisitely, instantly characterized.

Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions

Britten exhibition in Paris

An exhibition devoted to Benjamin Britten, believed to be the biggest so far, opens at the Paris Opéra on January 20. It coincides with the new production there of *Peter Grimes* and will run until March 20. Thereafter it moves to the Geneva Opéra, where there are new productions of *The Turn of the Screw* and *Albert Herring*.

There will be between 600 and 700 exhibits drawn from all over the world. Britten's scores will be on view and available to interested visitors. Four films using Britten's music will also be screened: *Night Mail, Noye's Fludde, The Instruments of the Orchestra* and *The Golden Vanity*.

Old Vic goes ahead with foreign productions

Despite the withdrawal of its Arts Council grant, the immediate plans of the Old Vic company have not been affected, and as part of its spring season it intends to present two foreign productions.

Beckett's *Waiting for Godot* will be presented in association with the Baxter Theatre of Cape Town; the leading roles will be taken by Winston Ntshona and John Kani, the black actors best known for their performances in the plays of Athol Fugard. *Godot* opens on February 17. The following month *Balconville*, a play by David Fennario about relations between English and French-speaking Canadians, will be performed by the Centaur Theatre Company of Montreal.

The Old Vic company will produce Vanbrugh's *The Relapse*, directed by Michael Simpson; it opens on January 20 with John Nettles among the cast. Then, in April, *The Merchant of Venice* returns with a largely new cast, including Prunella Scales as Portia. Timothy West repeats the role of Shylock.

The London première of a new play by Nick Darke, *Say Your Prayers*, will be presented by the Joint Stock Theatre Group at the Riverside Studios, Hammersmith, from February 3 to 28.

The new French play *The Workshop* by Jean-Claude Grumberg, which received its English premiere at the Oxford Playhouse in August, will open at the Hampstead Theatre on January 14. Directed by Nicholas Kent and designed by Stephanie Howard, it will have a cast including *Lynn Farleigh* and Lee Montague.

Graeae Theatre Company, Britain's only theatre company for disabled people, will present *Sideshow*, written and directed by Richard Tomlinson, at Riverside Studios from January 20 to 25. *Sideshow* portrays in pantomime, song and direct narration the lives of a group of characters trapped in a fairground freak show and their subsequent escape into the real world.

Book review

Britain's Black Population

By the Runnymede Trust and the Radical Statistics Race Group
(*Heinemann, £13.50, paperback £4.95*)

Damned lies, statistics and truth are difficult to separate in a subject as emotionally loaded as immigration. Black immigration, of course—for no one worries about white immigrants, or the fact that there are more Irish immigrants than Africans, Afro-Caribbeans, or Asians. Moreover, as a result of successive legislation—quite apart from that which is being considered at present—the total number of black people who are eligible ever to enter Britain is extremely limited.

Britain's Black Population presents, analyses and comments on government policy and legislation up to the end of *1979, as well as the age, sex*, marital status, birth and death rates, and immigration and settlement patterns of black people, and how they fare in employment, housing, and health and social services. The statistics are mainly derived from government sources, and *these have developed in a piece*-meal way to subserve political purposes. Information on immigration and employment is relatively complete, whereas that on health, education, housing, and social services is old and unreliable, or has never been collected.

Available statistics document the discrimination and disadvantage suffered by blacks. Successive governments have declared that they wish to see these reduced, but helpful legislation has come slowly. And governments have favoured policies tackling the problems of general disadvantage in Inner Cities rather than the *specific disadvantage* faced by black people.

If this approach is to continue, it is difficult to justify the collection of information on "ethnic origin". And there is the fear that such information may be misused, not just by *neo-fascist parties* but by mainstream ones as well. After all, it has so far led only to attempts at further control of black immigration — sometimes by splitting families. On the other hand, it is difficult to see how ameliorative measures can be undertaken without the avail*ability of such facts. Indeed the* book's conclusion, that little has been done so far for black people in Britain, would have been impossible to reach if such statistics were totally unavailable.

The authors raise various questions about available statistics. For instance, perhaps a third of those included in the 1966 Census as "born in India" were in fact white people, born there in the days of the Raj, and many of them had parents and grandparents born there as well. Before 1971, however, birthplace data are all that are available.

Reliable statistical information is necessary for informed debate and policy decisions. This thorough and detailed book goes a long way toward bringing the available information together, and exposing its limitations. It is an essential reference book for everyone concerned about immigration and black people in Britain.

Prabhu S. Guptara

Answers to the Christmas quiz

Theatre

1. (a) (right) *Uncle Vanya*. (b) (centre) *The Wild Duck* (c) (left) *Hedda Gabler*.
2. Richard III: Alan Howard (left), John Wood, Ramaz Chkhikvadze.
3. (a) *Sweeney Todd*. (b) *Nicholas Nickleby*. (c) The O'Toole *Macbeth*.

Music

1. Arabella (Josephine Barstow) at the London Coliseum.
2. Boult; Schwarz; Colin Davis; Kempe—*successive* chief conductors of the BBC Symphony Orchestra, which celebrated its fiftieth anniversary.
3. *The Tales of Hoffmann*.
4. The Metropolitan, New York, with Mahler's second symphony.
5. The Proms, due to the dispute between the Musicians' Union and the BBC.
6. The designer Erté, with *Der Rosenkavalier*.
7. Wood (12p), Beecham (13½p), Sargent (15p) and Barbirolli (17½p), depicted on a new issue of stamps.
8. Henze's *Pollicino*, given its British premiere at the Jeannetta Cochrane Theatre.

Cinema

1. Gary Cooper.
2. (a) *The Conductor (Dyrygent)*. (left); *Caligula*. (b) Polish; American-Italian co-production. (c) Andrzej Wajda; *Caligula* is exceptional in that no director is credited, but it was Tinto Brass until disputes caused his name to be removed from this credit.
3. *The Man Who Knew Too Much* (1955). *The Secret Agent*. seems never to have been remade; the remaining two were done by other hands.
4. Sir Cecil Beaton.
5. The real Elvis is the one with wide-open mouth. The imitation is Kurt Russell, in *Elvis—The Movie*.

WINNERS

First prize, of £30, goes to **Christopher Purslow** of London N1; second prize (£20) to **Andrew McLeod** of Penzance; third (£10) to **Sue Hillman** of London NW6.

Books

1. (a) Quintus Horatius Flaccus. (b) They were both among the many translators of Horace selected for *The Oxford Book of Verse in English Translation*, chosen and edited by Charles Tomlinson.
2. William Golding, winner of the Booker Prize for *Rites of Passage*.
3. (a) He is *The Old Man of Lochnagar*, by the Prince of Wales. (b) The illustrator is Sir Hugh Casson, President of the Royal Academy.
4. (a) The Emperor in Hans Andersen's *The Emperor's New Clothes*. (b) The illustrations were by W. Heath Robinson.

Ballet

1. Pulcinella; there were three new versions of the ballet in Switzerland and France last year to help jog memories.
2. *The Firebird*.
3. (a) Rachmaninov's *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini*. (b) HM the Queen Mother.

Visual arts

1. Left to right: Canaletto, Wyndham Lewis, John Nash, Ruskin Spear.
2. Rembrandt: *Carcase of an Ox*.
3. The Victoria and Albert.
4. Chair by Corbusier, drawn by David Hockney (left); sofa by Bugatti.

Broadcasting

1. (a) Michael Hordern, Prospero in *The Tempest* and Jeeves in the radio series. (b) *Porridge*: Slade prison was where Ronnie Barker was incarcerated.
2. *Blue Remembered Hills*, with Colin Welland.
3. *Professional Foul* was by Tom Stoppard; all the others were by David Mercer.
4. (a) John Craven, presenter of *John Craven's Newsround*. (b) The Week (*Start the week* and *Stop the Week*).

Taking a hard look at how television treats children's books

Television is not very generous towards children's books. Certainly it is glad to plunder them for films, or cartoons, or serials—indeed, with remarkable timing ITV at the moment are showing a heavily adapted version of BB's *Brendon Chase* almost simultaneously with a BBC 1 production of Leon Garfield's *Strange Affair of Adelaide Harris*. Certainly, too, in series like "Jackanory" or "The Book Tower" an effort is made to place children's books at the centre of a programme for children themselves—not always easy to do without an air of contrivance. But when it comes to the intelligent discussion of those books or of their place in children's lives then television rarely goes farther than putting on a few ill-prepared interviews, or tossing out some brisk recommendations from the pundits on occasions like Children's Book Week.

An exception which tests this rule occurred early last month when Robert Robinson converted his children's book number of the Book Programme from just such a ritual enumeration of seasonable fiction to an exhibition of much less seasonable faction.

Prompted by some articles that appeared recently in the *New Statesman* he brought to the studio representatives of the Children's Rights Workshop and the Society of Authors who have, over the past year or two, been slanging each other on the vexed question of racism in children's books.

Voices were raised more in anger than in sorrow, bare knuckles were in evidence, and the whole thing made for compulsive and indeed frequently hilarious viewing. (A colleague of mine remarked afterwards that Billingsgate fishwives could take some useful lessons from the critics of children's books.)

The trouble was, though, that this Book Programme afforded only a glimpse of its subject and, for the uninstructed viewer, needed much more filling out. Good as Mr Robinson's pre-fight summary was it could not bring out all the implications of the argument—and so busy were the contestants settling old scores that no cool analysis could be given of the books that stood at the heart of the dispute.

Furthermore, bold efforts by Mr Robinson to widen the discussion to include questions of socio-political manipulation were swamped in the clamour, and reinforced the view that there was scope here for much more regular and more carefully planned treatment of topics which are not so chidldish as they seem.

By fortunate chance all this fuss coincided with what looked to be a much more sustained television presentation of children's books for viewers with little background knowledge or experience. In a mood of unprecedented liberality BBC 2 mounted six weekly half-hour programmes of "Long, Short and Tall Stories" which aimed to provide "a guide through the maze of children's literature" Produced by Caroline Pick, who had previously worked on the Adult Literacy Project, the series was inspired by the not altogether new idea that enthusiastic child readers will turn into enthusiastic adult readers, and that a happy means to such an end is to give information and practical advice to their parents.

The clash of these programmes with gripping drama at the Crossroads Motel or at St Angela's may possibly have deflected some such parents from properly dutiful viewing—and the news that a planned January repeat of the series will now be delayed till the autumn may thus cause disappointment.

As one who sat through all six episodes however I can allay such concern, for a more dispiriting account of a potentially exciting theme can rarely have been given, and it would probably be safer to cancel all repeat showings in case any other liberal-minded programme-planners (or makers of breakfast serials) see the subject as quite unapt for their cameras.



Captain Najork and Aunt Fidget Wonkham-Strong from Russel Hoban's How Tom Beat Captain Najork and his Hired Sportsmen (Puffin/Cape).

It would not be difficult to write off all these six programmes as bad television simply on technical grounds. They were amateurishly presented. They had no shape or balance, either singly or as a whole. Sequences were randomly strung together, sometimes with bits of film edited in from other sources, such as an ancient Omnibus programme on book illustration. But these faults would be forgivable if they made the series more accessible to the chosen audience of parents—and yet, perversely, they rendered it formless and obscure from beginning to end.

Over the years I have done quite a lot of talking to parent groups about children's books and the pattern of parental interests is predictable and unchanging. They want to know about how their children can become readers in the teeth of educational reading schemes. They want to know what's wrong with or right with things like comics or Enid Blyton. They like to talk about telling or reading stories. And they get puzzled about why folk tales are frightening or why modern illustrators can't draw properly.

All of these topics—like, indeed, the Book Programme's arguments about social manipulation—are capable of being organized into coherent and eminently watchable television, but they made no substantial appearance in the arid or slanted episodes of "Long, Short and Tall Stories."

As an example one could take its opening sequence on Raymond Brigg's *Fungus the Bogeyman*, love for which led the presenters into critical sharp practice. For although it is a book of some merit (and although, like Bob Leeson's *Third Class Genie* later in the series, it is a book which gets cheap laughs because it contains words like "snot" and "belch") it also arouses strong reactions—not least among parents. With diffuse and disproportionate comment and quotation however, the presenters slid round the critical questions, as though the picture of a grinning child was of itself sufficient answer.

Plenty of other examples of the unperceptive use of material could be given, but a concluding objection needs to be lodged about the children's books that constituted this material. For it can not only be shown that, in terms of parents' needs, whole areas of the subject were hardly touched on (nursery rhymes and folk tales for example); it can also be shown that the selection and treatment of books conformed broadly to the joyless orthodoxy of our new children's book therapists. "I am not concerned with fantasy" said the author Farrukh Dhondy at one point, "or making up stories about rabbits, but with people struggling in Great Britain today" and it was a remark in tune with the tireless, patronizing didacticism of the series and its parading a succession of the New Stereotypes: pallid youths and daring maidens from the housing estates waging war on the autocracy of adulthood or the ills of society.

It is not surprising therefore that the few moments when the programmes transmitted to parents and everyone else some sense of the rich pleasure to be had from children's books were moments devoted to those who, metaphorically, were on the side of the rabbits: Philippa Pearce, cool and beautiful in her quiet recognition of "the interior life of fantasy which we all have", Quentin Blake stealing the show with his drawing of Aunt Fidget Wonkham-Strong, that Children's Rights Workladv *par excellence*, feeding cabbage-and-potato sog to the young. And in some *anonymous classroom, while well-drilled* children soberly discuss if they would rather jump in the nettles for £5 or eat a dead frog for £20, a small boy, almost out of picture, beams and waves his arms in natural, untutored enjoyment.

Brian Alderson

Children's books editor

Social Focus

Are lawyers the right people to handle civilized divorces?

Divorce marks the death of a relationship and is public acknowledgment of personal failure. It is thus both threatening and humiliating. It might therefore seem reasonable to expect the caring professions to be primarily involved in this area of family re-adjustment. Yet from the earliest times divorce has been firmly placed by the Establishment in the contentious issues area as a matter for resolution through the courts.

Lawyers are trained to work in the adversarial system of litigation. This system is combative, antagonistic and encourages a good fight. Cases are described as X versus X. This becomes husband versus wife, *mother versus father*. Former lovers are forced to become combatants, precisely the worst point from which to start.

What one finds so disturbing on closer inspection of the various alternatives proposed for the Family Court, eg in the Finer Report and by the Research Sub-Committee of Conservative Lawyers, is that despite welcoming the idea of a less formal, and inhibiting setting, all assume that lawyers and *magistrates will continue* to play the dominant role. It is proposed that adversarial procedures will be replaced by inquisitorial processes. (Lawyers are adept at finding recondite distinctions even where there *is no discernible* difference.)

The Divorce Reform Act 1969 has failed, partly because the original aim of no guilt divorce was watered down at the committee stage in deference to the wishes of *various pressure groups* with the result that its ambivalent provisions have led to abuse and have given excessive scope for judicial discretion and partly because the system is still geared to confrontation procedures in which lawyers pre-dominate.

As pointed out in the Finer Report "The post-war history of the divorce courts until 1969 show widespread and increasing mistrust and disapprobation for a jurisdiction that was being driven into what was often a virtual disregard of the law it was supposed to apply in order to serve personal and social needs which most of those who need it regarded as legitimate.

There is no branch of legal administration for which the respect of the community is more important than the administration of family law, and in the ultimate resort, the case for a family court is that it is the institution through which respect for the law can be achieved". However, many would not subscribe to the Finer view that the 1969 and 1970 reforms produced an almost instantaneous reversal of public attitudes.

Relatively few people outside the ranks of the legal fraternity and associated services and the unfortunate users know how the system works. Perjury, unnecessary expense, protracted negotiations and multiple court hearings, encouraged by legal aid based on the 'cost plus' system, do not win the respect of 'clients'. Those who really lose out are the children when parent is *set against parent*.

The Law Commission is currently reviewing the grounds for divorce and their discussion paper *The Financial Consequences of Divorce: the Basic Policy*, has recently been published. These initiatives coupled with concern over arrangements for the children and the Matrimonial Homes (Co-ownership) Bill constitute a major review of divorce law. This therefore seems an opportune time to consider the merits of tribunals for administering marital breakdown.

The distinguishing feature of tribunals is that they use as decision makers (and not just as witnesses) persons with specialized experience and those with professional, other then legal skills, relevant to the work of the tribunal. Thus a Family Tribunal might have a child psychiatrist for matters regarding welfare of children, a lawyer to advise on legal aspects and a numerate administrator chairman for determining financial issues, including division of assets.

Since the facts of a matter could be set out (and monitored via an administrative filter prior to the hearing) on a prescribed form, completed if desired with professional assistance, legal advocacy at hearings would not be necessary. Parties could appear in person, accompanied if preferred by a "friend" to give moral support and make notes.

The Law Society's discussion paper *A Better Way Out* concludes that the net cost of their proposals (including the setting up of the Family Court) "would be acceptable to society and that to implement them would be a profitable and effective use of public resources".

The reason successive governments have stated for refusing to act on any recommendation for a Family Court has been due to "resource constraints". It is therefore surprising to find that recent correspondence with the Lord Chancellor's Department reveals a *disquieting* refusal even to define in quantitative terms what these constraints are.

Does this mean that the essential homework has not yet been done? Could it be that lawyers cannot contemplate a system of Family Tribunals which would (far from requiring the allocation of unavailable resources), allow for the diversion of existing commitments into the area of conciliation counselling? Such a change should *make an impact on evidence* which indicates that in the aftermath of marital breakdown *over* half the children lose contact with the absent parent. Present procedures and attitudes, including for example, the hostility of some schools, and the prevaricating position of some welfare services, towards the parent not having care and control, do little to foster an effective ongoing relationship with both *parents*.

Matrimonial matters represent more than £100m worth of business annually to the legal profession. Blatantly dramatized affidavits designed to prove that one party has *behaved* unreasonably, or detailed trivia assembled and carefully slanted in issues relating to custody and access provide a shamefully inflated source of revenue for many solicitors and barristers.

It should *not* be supposed that such lucrative business will be voluntarily given up merely because a layman in legal matters suggests that the present methods are expensive, largely pointless and quite devastating for thousands of ordinary parents and children. As J. H. Farrer observed in *Law Reform and the Law Commission*, "For too long *law reform* has been carried out on the basis of a priori assertions or intuitive assessments of social facts and social consequences by lawyers".

In 1966 the Law Commission expressed the view that the objective of good divorce law should be to afford dead marriages "a decent burial" in such a way as to ensure "the maximum fairness and the minimum bitterness, distress and humiliation". It recognized that when parents of dependent children divorce, both often wish, and need to continue, to play an effective role in their children's lives. Thus it concluded that a second objective should be "to encourage harmonious relationships between the parties and *their children in the future*".

Few will dissent with those aims so why is it that the present arrangements have largely failed to achieve either? My conclusion, based on personal experience and as a friend in court (McKenzie person) on behalf of members of Families Need Fathers, on discussions with leading figures in the marriage counselling and welfare organizations and a study of many case histories, is that lawyers are simply the *wrong people for the job*.

Government priority should be to set up a Family Tribunal pilot scheme which can be monitored and amended in the light of experience.

Society is not best served, *nor in the final* analysis are the clients, by the fostering of bitterness, recrimination and abject unhappiness. When 200,000 children a year in England and Wales are the offspring of divorcing parents, the need for action is urgent.

Trevor Berry

The author is a member of the council of Families Need Fathers (a registered charity and a national society primarily concerned with the problems of maintaining a child's relationship with both its parents during and following separation and divorce).

(Continued on page 22)

SPORT

Football

Deft stroke by Francis brings down Bolton

By Tom German

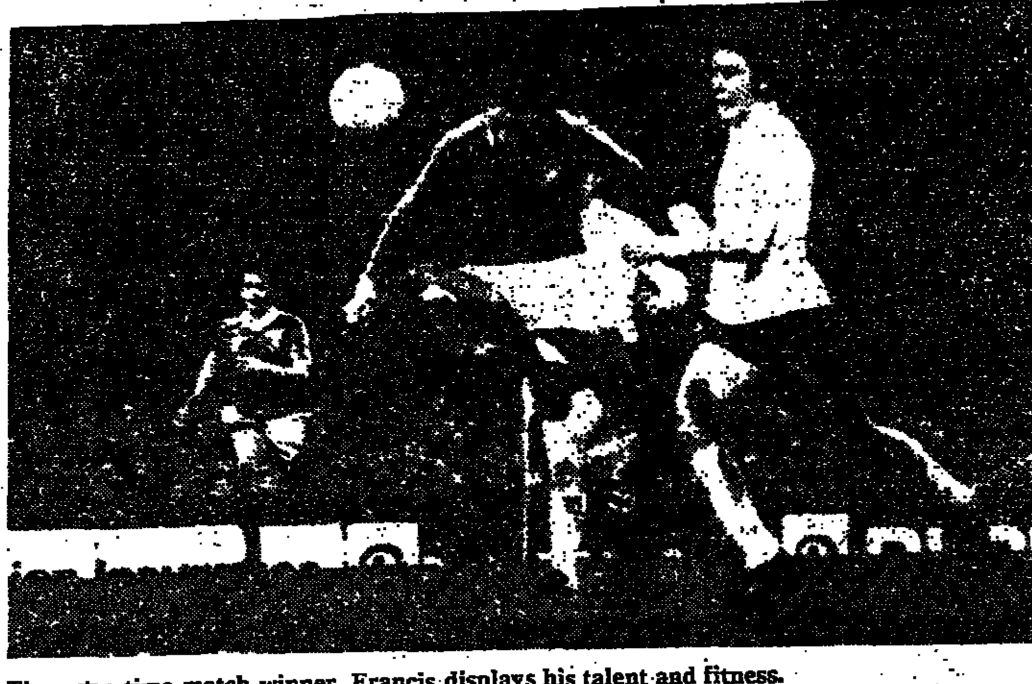
Bolton W 0 Nottingham F 1

Having put one warning shot across the bows of the European champions in coming so close to sinking them on Saturday, Bolton Wanderers embarked on last night's third round FA Cup replay in a mood to complete what they almost accomplished at the last attempt. They might well have holed them, too, in the opening half hour if they had accepted the chances their forthright challenges and sharp running created.

They spurned them, however, and a match which never flagged for effort slipped away from the second division side in the last phase of extra time when Francis underlined his fitness as well as his talent; he suddenly opened up the Bolton defence which had shown splendid determination and scored with a deft stroke of skill.

The best opportunity to present Nottingham with an uphill course fell to Kidd in the sort of position immediately in front of goal, where down the years he has been so deadly in the colours of a succession of clubs. Whatmore set up the chance by winning the race up the right with Gray and finding room to put a low ball across; Hoggan threw the Forest defence on to the wrong foot by skilfully skipping over the ball and Kidd was left with an uninterrupted view of Shilton's goal. He hoisted his shot meekly over the top.

A timely tackle by Burns, restored to the Forest defence and certainly busy at this stage of the match, prevented what would have been an unkind setback. Whatmore looked a couple of yards offside as the ball reached him midway in Forest territory; the linesman's flag stayed down, however, and he ran on, drew Shilton from his line but took much too long to despatch his shot.



The extra time match winner. Francis displays his talent and fitness.

There, perhaps, was a mark of the difference between the first and second divisions. It was long enough an interval for Burns to reach out a foot as Whatmore finally made his effort and the ball bobbed gently into Shilton's arms.

Hoggan had a couple of efforts, one high, the other held by Shilton in the opening half hour by which time Forest, reorganized from Saturday and looking more composed for it at the outset, recognized that they had a lot of work to do. Certainly they found it difficult to make much headway themselves against determined Bolton tackling.

Francis and Ward, playing together at senior level for the first time, could make little room and a couple of speculative shots by Anderson and a free kick by Gray were the best they could offer. Yet they could, and should, have given events a twist five minutes before half time. A quick, high clearance set Francis free; he had only Peacock ahead of him, tried to lift the ball over the goalkeeper's reach and showed his disappointment as it dropped harmlessly a yard or two wide of a post.

It appeared increasingly likely that the first side to find a chink in the other's mesh would require a lot of dislodging in what had developed into a hard fought cup-tie with little time for contemplation. Forest were beginning to look livelier in attack and thrust Lloyd forward on a couple of occasions in the hope that his reach in the air might disturb the Bolton defenders; it came to nothing and it was Shilton who had the first real taste of action in the second half as Nikolic shot hard and low as the ball emerged to him from a forest of scurrying feet.

Whatmore had an even better chance after 65 minutes but his shot was aimed straight at Shilton.

Now, however, Forest were looking more dangerous as they worked their way to the fringe of Bolton's penalty area. Francis, with another inch of room, might have made it but was tackled out of possession and then it was Bowyer's turn; his shot was on target but Peacock got down and turned it away to safety.

The rest was hectic and unflinching as Bolton stoutly refused to give ground and Forest strove increasingly to stretch them. It was looking very much like stalemate when, seven minutes from the end, Francis's industry and footwork won the match. He turned tightly, controlled the ball well, and as the move caught Peacock wrongfooted and he slid on to his back, Francis slipped the ball over the line to give Forest a fourth round home tie against Brighton or Manchester United.

BOLTON WANDERERS: D. Peacock; M. Graham, G. McElhinney, P. Wilson, P. Nicholson, I. Brennan, D. Nikolic, N. Whatmore, D. Hoggan, B. Kidd, A. Gowling.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST: P. Shilton; V. Anderson, F. Gray, J. McGovern, L. Lloyd, K. Burns, M. O'Neill, P. Ward, T. Francis, I. Bowyer, J. Robertson.

Referee: T. G. Bune (Cranleigh).

A Vale of tears as Enfield win with ease

By Nicholas Harling

Enfield 3 Port Vale 0

The banner for non-league clubs in the FA Cup was kept flying with almost laughable ease by Enfield last night when they removed Port Vale from the competition to reach the last 32 for the first time.

Rarely can a game involving an Isthmian League side and a Football League club have been as *one-sided*. *The only surprise* at Southbury Road was that Enfield, who knocked out Hereford in the last round, were always in complete control. They now visit Barnsley in the fourth round on January 24.

If the game was a chastening experience for Vale, it was a hugely satisfying *one for* the Enfield crowd, who occupied every spare seat, foot of terracing and vantage point to witness a famous victory.

Enfield were in front after only six minutes. A lovely interchange of passes between Oliver and Wade created the opening, but Beech should have done much more than clear Wade's cross straight back to him. From his second attempt, Wade found Bishop, who scored his side's goal in Saturday's draw, and he found the target again.

Although from the kick-off Barrett sent the ball upfield with a lusty kick, there was to be nothing agricultural about Enfield's methods. They were by far the better footballing side, slipping the ball incisively to one another on the sodden surface and running into open spaces. When the Chamberlain brothers did occasionally pose questions, Barret appeared in such command that he seemed to have completely recovered from the loss of form that kept him out of the first match.

With King appearing first on one wing and then on the other to confuse Vale's harassed defenders, Enfield might easily have fallen into the trap of becoming complacent. The Chamberlains inspired one break out of defence which ended with Mark sweeping his shot past an upright. It needed a fine tackle by Ashford on Neville moments later to deny Vale another opportunity.

Enfield doubled their lead with a goal in the 40th minute that was comical—as long as you were not from the Potteries or Vale's goalkeeper. Cherry miserably failed to connect with an attempted kicked clearance and King, who had put him under pressure, seized on the loose ball to trickle it in. For an instant in the 68th minute it looked as if Miller had pulled a goal back, but his effort, driven in at a free kick, was disallowed because a colleague was offside.

It was to be Vale's last hope of salvation. Ten minutes from the end, Bishop's astute pass sent King zig-zagging into Vale's penalty area again. Howell met his perfectly timed pass with a shot which Cherry would probably have been unable to save even if had not been deflected.

ENFIELD: J. Jacobs; R. Wade, J. Tone, A. Jennings, S. Oliver, R. Howell, N. Ashford (sub. L. Holmes), P. Barrett, P. Burton, J. Bishop, S. King.

PORT VALE: S. Cherry; T. Brissett, J. Miller, K. Beech, P. Bowles, P. Sproson, P. Farrell, S. Jones, N. Chamberlain, M. Chamberlain (sub. I. Elsby), R. Bromage.

Referee: K. W. Baker (Rugby).

Fulham and Bury made heavy weather of their replay at Craven Cottage and for 120 minutes neither side looked likely to score.

Bury were the better side in the first half, giving a performance that belied their lowly position in the fourth division. They were content to defend thereafter, allowing Fulham nearly all the possession; but apart from two efforts from Goodlass, Fulham never looked likely to score.

Rugby Union

Scots reshuffle pack for trip to Paris

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

Scotland have selected one new cap, Jim Calder, the forthright Stewart's Melville flanker, for their first international of the season against France in Paris on Saturday week. Yet there are only three survivors from the pack which faced *England at the end of* last season and one of those, the lock, David Gray, apparently must owe his retention to a knee injury suffered by Tom Smith, of Gala, in the trial. The others are Alan Tomes and John Beattie, two of five British Lions in the side.

The end product is a new front row in which Jim Aitken, the Gala loose-head prop, will win his first cap for four years after being chosen on the junior side in the trial. He played three times for Scotland in 1977 before Ian McLauchlan made an international comeback. Colin Deans reclaims the hooking place he lost last season when he was injured in the French match and replaced by Ken Lawrie. Ian Milne, at tight-head, also wins back a position he lost through injury when Scotland's last championship fixtures were half completed.

Calder, aged 23 and one of four rugby-playing brothers, *is* expected to play on the left side of the scrummage with Gordon Dickson operating on the right. They have replaced David Leslie, no longer in contention, and Mike Biggar, now 31, who won his twenty-fourth cap in the Calcutta Cup match though losing the captaincy to Andy Irvine. The choice on a flank of two players similar in style suggests that Scotland, under their new coach Jim Telfer, still intends to explore an expansive approach. Dickson, now due for his eighth cap, played throughout the 1979 campaign but only once against Wales last season.

I am told that Smith had so impressive a trial at lock last Saturday that he only had to stay on his feet to walk into the national team for the first time. Though only in his second season in senior rugby, this former basketball international, who is an athletic 6ft 7½in and 17st, scored a resounding try, but more tellingly perhaps achieved a good share of lineout possession with his two-handed catching and repeated the method with great panache when fielding the ball from restarts.

Having previously been out of action with a shoulder injury, Smith had the ill luck to suffer a knee strain, with a resultant lot of *fluid around the joint, during* an extra 10 minutes added to the trial. It must be quite a nasty injury for the selectors to refrain from giving him time to recover before their party leaves for Paris. But we can all expect to hear of Smith again.

The unavailability of David Johnston, who has been nursing a hamstring injury, meant that the selectors had to find a new centre to partner the perennial Jim Renwick, the most capped of all Scottish players in that position and now in line for his thirty-sixth cap. The choice has fallen on Keith Robertson, whose eight previous appearances have been made on the wing. Robertson was on the right flank in the Calcutta Cup match but he had a good trial as a centre before suffering a head injury that was not serious.

The choice of Robertson in the middle has enabled the selectors *to bring* back Steve Munro, of Ayr, on the wing. *Munro* won two caps against Ireland and France last season before losing his place to Robertson. He had a fine game for the Barbarians at Leicester recently.

Irvine, captaining his country for the second time, will win his thirty-eighth cap. He has scored 210 points in all international rugby, including matches for the Lions, and just one more in Paris will give him a world record at present shared with Phil Bennett, of Wales.

TEAM: A. R. Irvine (Heriot's FP, captain); S. Munro (Ayr), J. M. Renwick (Hawick), K. W. Robertson (Melrose), B. H. Hay (Boroughmuir); J. Y. Rutherford (Selkirk), R. J. Laidlaw (Jedforest); J. Aitken (Gala), C. T. Deans (Hawick), I. G. Milne (Heriot's FP); A. G. Tomes (Hawick), D. Gray (West of Scotland), J. A. Calder (Stewart's Melville), J. R. Beattie (Heriot's FP), G. Dickson (Gala).

Replacements: N. A. Rowan (Boroughmuir), K. G. Lawrie (Gala), W. Cuthbertson (Kilmarnock), R. Wilson (London Scottish), R. W. Breakey (Gosforth), A. J. M. Lawson (Heriot's FP).

Uttley rules himself out of county championship final

Roger Uttley has ruled himself out of Northumberland's team to face Gloucestershire in the Thorn county championship final on January 31. The former England and British Lions forward has been *struggling* to overcome a back injury which caused him to miss Northumberland's semi-final win over Surrey and he has told the county there is no chance at all of him being fit for the final, to be held in Gloucester.

Uttley, who announced his *retirement* from international rugby a few weeks ago, said yesterday, "I haven't played since the Wasps match against Rosslyn Park a fortnight before Christmas because of the injury and it has still not completely sorted itself out.

"What with Christmas and the new year I haven't had the amount of treatment I would have perhaps liked, but, more important, I haven't been in serious training.

"I had a long chat with David Shaw, the Northumberland coach, and I've decided it wouldn't be fair on the boys just to bring along *my reputation* and nothing else. It wouldn't be good for them and it certainly wouldn't be good for me".

Giles Smallwood looks likely to be the man to take Uttley's number eight position in the final. He stood in for Uttley in the semi-final against Surrey and plays at number eight for Northumberland in a game against a Gateshead Metropolitan XV at Blaydon next Tuesday.

The sudden departure to France of the Middlesex and London prop forward, Clint McGregor, has left his club, Wasps, in the dark. Wasps do not know whether the 28-year-old former England trial player intends to return to this country, although one report has said that he will join Maurice Colclough, the England lock, at Angoulême.

McGregor joined Wasps from Saracens before the start of the season but, although still a regular with Middlesex and London, his chances of an England cap seem to have slipped.

Blakeway, of Gloucester, is now the regular partner to Fran Cotton and Austin Sheppard and Gary Pearce could be considered to be the next in line.

Wasps make three changes for Saturday's home game with Exeter University. Stringer, the fullback, and O'Reilly, the winger, will both be unavailable for the John Player Cup tie against London Scottish on January 24, so M. Evans and Bell are given a chance to win a Cup place. The other change is at centre, where Bruce comes in for Perkins.

Rosslyn Park make six changes for the visit of the London merit table leaders, London Scottish, on Saturday.

Rowing

Career of No 1 coach at a crossroads

By Jim Railton

Bohumil Janousek, one of the world's leading authorities and coaches in international rowing, may find himself redundant in this country by the middle of the month and British rowing not in a position to employ him. The British boatbuilding firm, Carbocraft, Ltd., came under receivership last October and will be under new ownership by the middle of this month. Janousek, who has been technical director of the company since 1976, has been offered "a part time post as technical adviser" but it is unlikely that this alone will satisfy Janousek's ambitions.

Janousek's availability comes at a time when the Amateur Rowing Association (ARA) may be unable to offer him a full time post. The ARA are struggling to keep their present establishment of three full time professional coaches afloat with the cutback in grants to sport. The paradox is that the ARA searched for nearly a decade in the 60s for a coach of Janousek's ability and experience.

In the 1969 European championships in Austria negotiations with Janousek, who was then the Czechoslovak national coach, were carried out secretly by ARA officers. By October of that year Janousek was in England and as principal national coach restored Great Britain's lost international pride, coaching the British eight to a silver medal in the 1974 world and 1976 Olympic Games. Janousek became a naturalized British subject in 1975.

Janousek said yesterday: "Frankly I am at a crossroads in my career and not sure which *direction to take. It could be back* to full time professional sport or there may be an opportunity of staying in the business world". Janousek has kept well abreast of developments in the sport since joining Carbocraft, lecturing in various countries and advising top coaches, both in Great Britain and overseas.

In the *circumstances* it is to be hoped that private sources within the sport could help. Despite Britain's success in international rowing since Janousek's departure in 1976, he must still be regarded as the No. 1 coach in the country, at least in terms of personality and judgment. Janousek, too was not only national rowing coach in Czechoslovakia but also the professional technical officer responsible for the preparation of all Olympic sports. He is the calibre of man Britain cannot afford to *lose and I know he has a deep* attachment to this country.

David Lunn-Rockliffe, executive secretary of the ARA said yesterday: "We don't want to see his talent wasted. If we had the money we would like to see him tie in with us at least on a consultancy basis."

The ARA men's selection policy for this year states their intention "to consolidate and to improve further our position among the rowing nations". Honourable intentions indeed but the success of the policy will depend on finance and that is a grey area. Despite setting a world lightweight record last year and a gold medal in eights, the British lightweight team still have no sponsor for this year and a budget estimate of £9,000 must be met to keep their hopes alive.

Sibson's challenger

Saez Gomez of Spain has been nominated as official challenger for the European middleweight title, recently won by Tony Sibson of Leicester. If contracts for the contest are not signed by January 15, it will go out to purse offers.

West Ham survive Welsh challenge but must return

By Keith Macklin

Wrexham 0 West Ham 0

The holders are no nearer Wembley after 210 minutes, but at least they survived the fervent Welsh challenge on a Racecourse *Ground which had the consistency* of chocolate cake mixture. And their hopes of better turf conditions in the second replay were hit after the match when the toss of a coin deigned they should return to Wrexham on Monday. This means that their League Cup semi-final match against Coventry, planned for Tuesday, has had to be postponed.

On a waterlogged pitch which blew more spray than bubbles, West Ham soon realised that their pattern weaving would prove difficult. Brooking and Devonshire attempted to stroke the ball about, *but it skidded, stopped and* started in little pools of water. Wrexham, when they were not passing backwards, attempted more direct methods through the elusive wingmen, Fox and Cartwright, but these were not conditions for conclusive attacks or decisive finishing and it was remarkable that despite all the endeavour neither goalkeeper was seriously troubled in the first 90 minutes.

There were occasional moments to arouse the crowd. Devonshire, with neat footwork, found a way through to curve a pass to Holland, *but Davies got his hands* there first. The Wrexham fans yelled for a goal when Jones created an opening for Cartwright, but it was the side netting which bulged as Cartwright shot and the crowd roared. Cartwright put two further efforts wide on a night when the players could legitimately blame the sodden pitch for some erratic shooting.

In the second half West Ham seemed content to play a containing game, and the better chances fell to Wrexham. Arkwright spooned a reasonably simple chance over the bar, and Davis shot wide from yet another teasing cross from Cartwright. West Ham occasionally threatened to produce something from their repertoire of skills, but their closest chances were a header from Cross which went over the bar from Stewart's free kick, and a dipping shot from Devonshire which Davies caught splendidly.

In the last minute of normal time Fox raced away with the defence trailing, and was brought down. The crowd thought it was a penalty, the referee was sure that it was a free-kick just outside the area, and Cartwright's cross was scrambled away.

West Ham could claim to have been *nearest* to a goal in the *closing* minutes of extra time. Cross stabbed in Devonshire's low centre, but jubilation turned to disappointment as the referee, Mr Hamil, ruled offside.

WREXHAM: D. Davies; A. Hill, J. Jones, G. Davis, W. Cegielski, I. Arkwright, S. Fox, M. Sutton, I. Edwards, D. McNeil, L. Cartwright.

WEST HAM UNITED: P. Parkes; R. Stewart, F. Lampard, B. Bonds, A. Martin, A. Devonshire, P. Holland, P. Goddard, D. Cross, T. Brooking, G. Pike.

Referee: A. J. Hamil (Wolverhampton).

Wolves finally jump over the quick, brave Fox

By Gerald Sinstadt

Wolves 2 Stoke City 1

When the history of the 100th FA Cup competition is written, Wolverhampton Wanderer's third round replay victory over Stoke *at Molineaux last night* will not merit much more than a footnote. Wolves deservedly qualified for a trip to Watford in the fourth round but only after a game in which much of the excitement resulted from errors and miskicks.

The goal that gave Stoke the lead, well taken though it was, could be traced back to a moment of indecision by Atkinson. A pass from Evans that should have been cleared was allowed to reach Heath, cutting in from the right lenged, Heath lifted over Bradshaw, uncertainly positioned, and inside the far post.

In the preceding 35 minutes Stoke's attack had been virtually impotent. A run along the seconds by Cook led to Bradshaw saving this low cross. A shot by Bracewell ballooned over the bar off Daniel. Both efforts would be flattered to be described as scoring chances.

Two first-half thrusts by Wolves were more menacing but equally unproductive. Hibbitt drove a free kick against a wall of bodies from which the ball ricochetted to Eves but his shot slaped the face of the crossbar. A better move needed a brave, swift plunge by *Fox when Hibbitt ran on to a* clever header from Richards.

Any ambitions Stoke may have had to defend their lead vanished early in the second half. Fox did well to claw away a shot from Richards, but the ball ran to Eves who drove it back past the unlucky goalkeeper. In quick succession, Heath, Bracewell and Munro fired in shots that could have restored Stoke's lead, but Bradshaw, diving left and right, smothered them all.

Cohesive defence and controlled attacking remained elusive, but there was no denying the quality of the goal that eventually settled the tie. *First, a shot by Hibbitt* was fingertipped round a post by Fox. *Then, Hollifield's cross from the* ensuing corner was cleared but only to Hibbitt. This time, his magnificently struck drive left Fox motionless.

Berry soon found himself in the clear but his shot went over the bar by a yard. Richards shuffled and sidestepped his way to an opening but was denied by Fox's quick rush to block. If Richards was unfortunate then, he should have done better than screw another shot wide following some good approach work by Hibbitt.

There was time for one more flying save by Fox from a Hibbitt volley, and *for Stoke to stage a* late rally, but by then, the mould had set. If the second half did something to atone for the first, it was still a long way short of a classic.

WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS: P. Bradshaw; G. Palmer, M. Hollifield, P. Daniel, J. McAlle, G. Berry, K. Hibbitt, H. Atkinson, N. Bell, J. Richards, M. Eves.

STOKE CITY: P. Fox, R. Evans, P. Hampton, A. Dodd, J. Cook, M. Doyle, P. Bracewell, A. Heath, L. Chapman, P. Maguire (sub P. Richardson), L. Munro.

Referee: G. B. White (Harrow).

Wilkins, Buchan and McQueen ready to return

Dave Sexton faces a dilemma as he prepares Manchester United for their FA Cup third round *replay against Brighton at the* Goldstone Ground tonight. For the first time this season his senior squad have been given a completely clean bill of health. The question is whether Wilkins, out since the summer, McQueen, with one appearance this season, and *Buchan*, out for most of the season, should be recalled for such an important match.

Wilkins, after two reserve games, seems to have at last recovered from his groin *injury*.

McQueen, who had an ankle injury, and the captain Buchan, who damaged a hamstring in October, played with Wilkins in the reserves on Saturday and are back in full training.

Mr Sexton said: "This is a real dilemma because it is always difficult to be sure about the right time to bring back injured players. This is a cup-tie and we can't afford to take any risks."

Thompson's disputed goal sees Coventry through

A disputed goal in the last seconds by Coventry City's striker, Garry Thompson, settled their FA Cup third round *replay against* Leeds United last night, when it looked as though the tie would go into extra time.

Leeds protested that Thompson committed a foul as he bundled the ball into the net but the referee, Pat Partridge, waved them aside. *The goal came from a free* kick by Blair which was lobbed forward into a crowded goal-mouth; Gillespie helped it forward and Thompson finished it off.

An 85th minute goal by Wimbledon's leading scorer, Alan Cork, put paid to Oldham of the second division. Cork played a neat one-two with Denny then calmly slipped the ball over the diving body of Platt, the Oldham goalkeeper.

Robbie Cooke, a striker recruited by Peterborough United for £12,000 from Grantham last season, scored two goals to earn the fourth division side an unexpected 2—1 win at Chesterfield and they will meet Notts County in the fourth round.

Cooke struck after 12 minutes with a simple side-footed goal. Hunter equalized at a corner on the half-hour, but Cooke was on target again in a goalmouth melee two minutes later. Peterborough had two men booked—Hodgson for dissent and Slough

Carlisle United found their way through the swirling mist that enveloped the pitch and fought back to beat Mansfield Town, who took a 37th minute lead.

A bad back-pass by Coughlin gave the Carlisle goalkeeper, Harrison, no chance and Pollard raced forward to place the ball in an empty net.

Beardsley came to Carlisle's rescue in the 54th minute, when he scored from a pass from Bannon. In the 67th minute MacDonald, the Carlisle captain, picked up a pass from Haig and tucked it into the net for the winning goal.

Yesterday's results

FA Cup, third round replays

Bolton (0) 0 Nottm F (0) 1
23,799 Francis
(After extra time. Winners home to Manchester United or Brighton.)

Carlisle (0) 2 Mansfield (1) 1
Beardsley Pollard
McDonald 6,929
(Winners home to Derby or Bristol City.)

Chesterfield (1) 1 Peterborgh (2) 2
Hunter Cooke (2)
8,216
(Winners away to Notts County.)

Coventry (0) 1 Leeds (0) 0
Thompson 22,057
(Winners home to Birmingham or Sunderland.)

Enfield (2) 3 Port Vale (0) 0
Bishop, King 5,449
Howell
(Winners away to Barnsley.)

Fulham (0) 0 Bury (0) 0
6,582
(After extra time. Winners home to Charlton.)

Oldham (0) 0 Wimbledon (0) 1
6,789 Cork
(Winners away to West Ham or Wrexham.)

Wolves (0) 2 Stoke (1) 1
Eves Heath
Hibbitt 22,892
(Winners away to Watford.)

Wrexham (0) 0 West Ham (0) 0
13,643
(After extra time. Winners home to Wimbledon.)

WELSH CUP: Fourth round: Newport County 3, Ton Pentre 0.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Southern division: Hounslow 0, Aylesbury 1.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: First division: Billericay 2, Clapton 1; Kingstonian 4, Hampton 1; Maidenhead United 3, St Albans 0; Wembley 1, Walton and Hersham 1.

ATHENIAN LEAGUE: Haringey Borough 1, Edgware 4; Hoddesdon 2, Harefield 4; Redhill 1, Windsor and Eton 1.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Runcorn v Tamworth—postponed.

FA YOUTH CUP: Second round: Queens Park Rangers 2, Arsenal 2 (after extra time).

Today's fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated.

FA CUP: Third round replays: Brighton and Hove Albion v Manchester United (7.45); Bristol City v Derby County; Sunderland v Birmingham City; Tottenham Hotspur v Queen's Park Rangers (7.45).

SCOTTISH CUP: Second round: Albion Rovers v Arbroath; Queen of the South v East Fife. Replays: Cowdenbeath v Hawick Royal Albert; Spartans v Stenhousemuir (1.30). Postponed: Albion Rovers v Arbroath. Ground waterlogged.

FA YOUTH CUP: Third round replay: Charlton Athletic v Cardiff City (7.0).

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Southern division: Dover v Canterbury.

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: The Army v The Civil Service (Military Stadium, Aldershot, 2.30).

RUGBY UNION: Bath v Royal Navy (7.15); Surrey v The Army; British Police v Public School Wanderers (Imbercourt, 2.15).

Athletics

Cosford event attracts 681 entries

A remarkable number of 681 entries has been received for the indoor athletics meeting at Cosford on Friday and Saturday. The event, the traditional opening of the indoor season, sponsored by Philips, has added interest this year because of the new track which has been laid at RAF Cosford.

The largest entry is in the men's 60 metres, in which 60 competitors will be involved in 10 heats. The leading contenders are expected to be the local runners, Ainsley Bennet, Eddie Cutting and Darren Bills.

Verona Elder and Sonia Lannaman lead the women's list of entrants.

RFU to 'sell' ground

The Rugby Football Union are starting "an aggressive selling campaign" to try to use Twickenham for non-rugby events.

Rugby League

A front row called O'Neill

By Keith Macklin

It is not beyond possibility that the Great Britain under-24 team to play France under-24 at Villeneuve on Saturday will have a front row called O'Neill. When the team *was announced yesterday Stephen* O'Neill (Wigan) and Paul O'Neill (Salford) were named as prop-forward and hooker, and Widnes's Mike O'Neill, the brother of Stephen, is one of the two substitute forwards from whom a late choice will be made. If O'Neill gets the nod and Warrington's Brian Case is somehow removed from the firing line Mike O'Neill would form a complete O'Neill trio of heavies.

Another family curio is that while Colin Whitfield (Salford) plays at centre his brother Robin, a referee, will be running one of the lines at touch-judge in support of the British referee, Stan Wall of Leigh.

The team, already short of several players through injury, also lost Gary Hyde (Castleford) *the goalkicking centre who pulled* out injured from a training session this week. Paul Harkin, the Hull Kingston Rovers scrumhalf, moves up to replace the injured Holding, and into Harkin's original spot as reserve back comes Kevin Dick, of Leeds.

TEAM: Mumby (Bradford Northern), Drummond (Leigh), Gilbert (Featherstone Rovers), Whitfield (Salford), Fenton (Castleford), Evans (Featherstone Rovers (captain), Harkin (Hull Kingston Rovers), S. O'Neill (Wigan), P. O'Neill (Salford), B. Case (Warrington), I. Potter (Warrington), K. Ward (Castleford), T. Flanagan (Oldham). Substitutes: Dick (Leeds), M. O'Neill (Widnes), or G. Van Bellen (Bradford Northern).

For the record

Ski jumping

BISCHOFSHOFEN: Four hills competition:—Final round: 1, A. Kogler (Austria) 108m/96.5m (231.2 pts); 2, H. Neuper (Austria) 107.5m/95.5m (228.2); 3, P. Bergerud (Norway) 103m/96m (223.9); 4, H. Wallner (Austria) 101.5m/96m (223.5); 5, R. Ruud (Norway) 101m/95m (222.4); 6, M. Buse (East Germany) 99m/92m (211.8). Overall: 1, Neuper 931 pts; 2, Kogler 927.4; 3, J. Puikkonen (Finland) 892.8; 4, Ruud 890.5; 5, Bergerud (Norway) 886.8; 6, Wallner (Austria) 864.5.

Cricket

COLOMBO: Under-20 international match: Sri Lanka 247 for 9 dec (B. Kuruppu 46, R. Wijesuriya 57; R. Shastri 6 for 85); India 11 for 3.

DACCA: Bangladesh 281 for 6 v MCC. Rain stopped play.

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Boston Bruins 4, *Winnipeg Jets 1; Los Angeles* Kings 5, Calgary Flames 3.

Basketball

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Seattle Supersonics 105, Dallas Mavericks 89.

Bobsleigh

IGLS: European two-man championships: 1, H. Hiltebrand and W. Rahm (Switzerland), 3 min 44.75 secs; 2, B. Germeshausen and H-J. Gerhardt (EG), 3:43.42; 3, W. Eidenschink and A. Geiger (WG), 3:45.49; 4, H. Schoenau and A. Kirchner (EG), 3:45.75; 5, B. Lehmann and E. Weise (EG), 3:46.04; 6, R. Sperling and F. Koefel (Austria), 3:46.06.

Basketball

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Indiana Pacers 113, New Jersey Nets 104; Milwaukee Bucks 128, San Diego Clippers 95; Boston Celtics 130, Portland Trail Blazers 111.

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS: Peter Marsh Chase, Haydock: Snow Fairy and *Royal Charley. All engagements* (dead) Rock Pendant.

Latest snow reports from Europe

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Piste	Conditions Off piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Andermatt	100	200	Fair	Heavy	Closed	Snow	-4
Skiing restricted							
Anzère	120	210	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	-3
Snow for 48 hours							
Arosa	110	140	Good	Varied	Good	—	-7
High lifts closed by winds							
Avoriaz	150	180	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	-8
Blizzard continuing							
Grindlewald	60	150	Good	Powder	Good	Sn & Wd	+1
Snow and wind							
Isola 2000	~20	50	Worn	Crust	Poor	Fine	+6
All pistes very worn							
La Plagne	140	180	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	-8
Blizzard, few lifts open							
Mürren	140	260	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	-6
Deep powder everywhere							
St Anton	80	190	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	-5
Danger of avalanches							
Tignes	126	290	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	-4
Blizzard, little skiing							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the ski club of Great Britain, L refers to Lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports were received from other sources.

NORWAY	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
Finse	220	88	Good	—	-36
Geilo	60	24	Good	—	-18
Gol	40	16	Good	—	-28
Lillehammer	85	—	Good	—	-16
Norefjell	75	—	Good	—	-13
Oslo	55	—	Good	—	-15
Voss	100	40	Good	—	-13
Rjukan	85	—	Good	—	-20

Skiing

Miss Wenzel still waiting to start new campaign

From John Hennessy
Pfronten, Jan 6

The first race of the women's world cup circuit since the Christmas break, a downhill, was to have been held here in the Bavarian Alps today, followed by another tomorrow, but the weather, not for the first time, has turned against Pfronten.

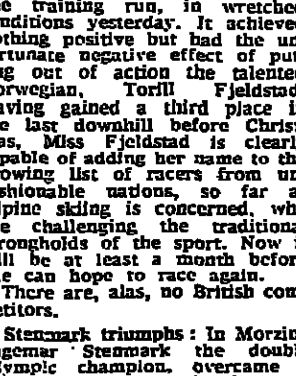
The conditions were ideal until the end of the year, but January 1 brought in its train two solid days *of rain, since when there has been* almost incessant snow borne on a fierce wind. Given a change in the weather, which is promised for all of Germany except these parts, two training runs are to be held tomorrow with a view to racing on Thursday. The indications are that the world cup caravan will be moving on early tomorrow with nothing achieved.

A cancelled ski race is always a depressing experience, but it would be a particular setback here, because Pfronten had hoped, and still desperately hopes, to launch Hanni Wenzel on a new world cup campaign.

Miss Wenzel, however, suffered an injury in training in November that required an operation on an ankle. Thus she has been out of action, while her main challenger, Marie-Theres Nadig, of Switzerland, has been piling up the points, 136 of them so far. Miss Wenzel is the more versatile skier of the two, but it seems impossible for her now to catch up.

So far the racers have had only one training run, in wretched conditions yesterday. It achieved nothing positive but had the unfortunate negative effect of putting out of action the talented Norwegian, Torill Fjeldstad. Having gained a third place in the last downhill before Christmas, Miss Fjeldstad is clearly capable of adding her name to the growing list of racers from unfashionable nations, so far as Alpine skiing is concerned, who are challenging the traditional strongholds of the sport. Now it will be at least a month before she can hope to race again.

There are, alas, no British competitors.



Stenmark triumphs: In Morzine Ingemar Stenmark the double Olympic champion, overcame a substantial first run handicap to win the men's world cup giant slalom here today and move up in the overall standings.

RESULTS: 1, I. Stenmark (Sweden), 3min 6.26sec; 2, J. Gaspoz (Switzerland), 3:06.77; 3, B. Krizaj (Yugoslavia), 3:06.85; 4, P. Mahre (US), 3:07.07; 5, B. Noeckler (Italy), 3:07.21; 6, A. Wenzel (Liechtenstein), 3:07.46; 7, P. Zurbriggen (Switzerland), 3:07.78; 8, L. Stock (Austria), 3:07.96; 9, J. Luethy (Switzerland), 3:08.05; 10, C. Orlainsky (Austria), 3:08.07.

OVERALL: 1, P. Mueller (Switzerland), 80 points; 2, I. Stenmark (Sweden), 73; 3, A. Wenzel (Liechtenstein), 67; 4, H. Enn (Austria), 65; 5, S. Podborski (Canada), 61; 6, L. Stock (Austria), 60; 7, P. Mahre (US), 59; 8, U. Spiess (Austria), 56; 9, H. Weirather (Austria), 55; 10, J. Luethy (Switzerland), 46.—Agencies.



An ill wind: coaches and officials brave a gale as unkind weather stops Pfronten staging its world cup downhill.

SPORT

Tennis

Strangers on the same side of the net

By Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent

Victor Amaya and Hank Pfister, two large Americans, beat Frew McMillan and Christopher Mottram 6—4, 6—3, 6—4 in the first match of the World Championship Tennis doubles tournament, sponsored by Braniff Airways, at Olympia last evening. As McMillan and Mottram had never before played on the same side of the net, the result was less surprising than the fact that their opponents won the French championship on slow clay in Paris last June.

Amaya and Pfister have a combined height of 12ft 11in and weigh in at more than 29 st. With a lean or a lurch they seem capable of reaching almost anything that comes their way—and they give the ball a very sharp tap indeed. But as they showed in Paris and again last evening, there is much more to their tennis than poundage and power. True, the muscle helps. However, they also play smart, alert doubles, enlivened by Pfister's capacity for finesse and the booming, swinging projectiles launched by Amaya's long left arm.

On this occasion, they served well except for an occasional stutter and the rest of their games fell neatly into place. Amaya demonstrated the resilient benefits of being both big and left-handed and Pfister had the confidence and touch to produce a few angles that even foxed McMillan, which is no easy thing to do. Pfister also produced a volleyed lob that lingers in the memory.

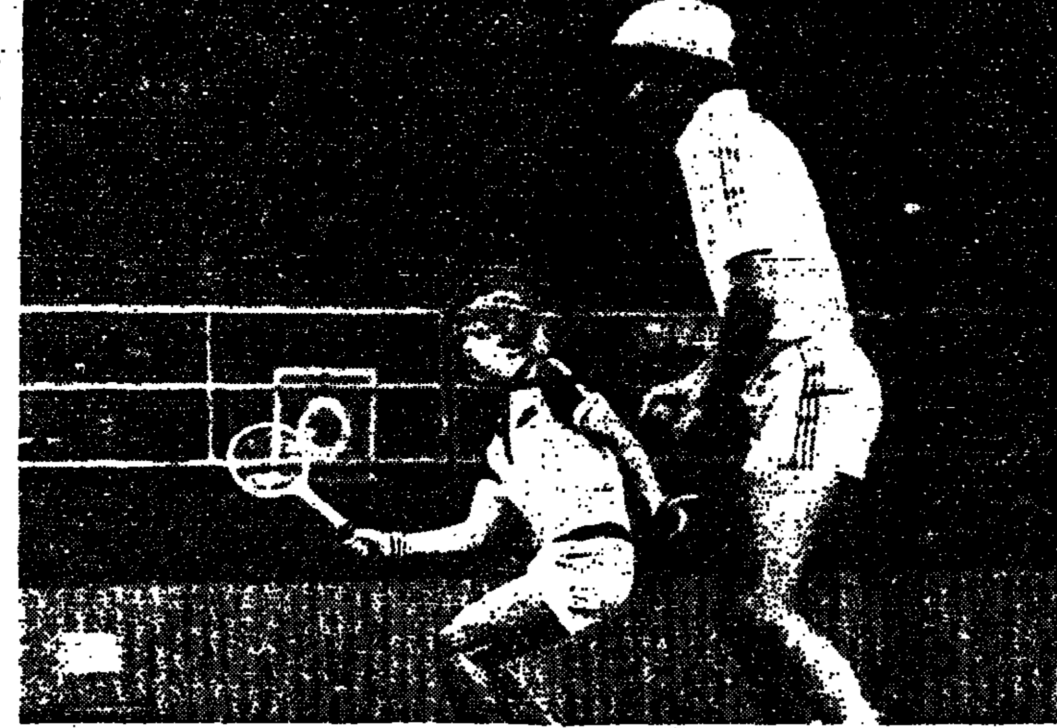
At 38, McMillan is not quite as quick as he used to be. However, midway through the second set his cute brain and deceptive two-handed expertise began to threaten the Americans. The challenge was extinguished almost as soon as it was kindled. But one wondere dhow much closer the match night have been had McMillan and Mottram been familiar partners.

They broke Amaya to lead 3—2 in the first set, but lost seven of the next eight games. They had two break points against Amaya in the seventh game of the second set—and broke him again in the fourth game of the third. But what with missing a few chances and losing their own service games at regular intervals, they were always in trouble after that promising start. Pfister never had a break point against him until the last game of the match.

The tennis wasoften admirable but fell some way short of enchantment. There was time to notice the presence of two service linesmen, at opposite sides, with each man calling the shots on the most distant section of the line. There was also time to wonder whether the extraordinary outfits worn by the line judges (loose-fitting black with bars of white) had been designed in consultation with a committee on penal reform.

The second match was better, but equally brisk: a 6—4, 6—4, 6—4 win by Heinz Gunthard and Mayer both wore black shorts and calf-length red socks and looked ready for beach games, but they were ready for tennis too. They have impressive doubles records with other partners and now worked well in harness.

Curren and Denton are a regular team but that could not quite compensate for what is currently a slight difference in class. Denton's overheads were potentially perforating, but had no more than a spasmodic if startling influence on the match. In some ways, these two should be the promoters' pets. They are graduates of the University of Texas: and Dallas is the headquarters of both WCT and Braniff. Curren and Denton are not done for yet. This was only the first of four days in a round-robin series before four teams qualify for Saturday's semi-final round.



Photograph by David Jones

In the frame: Mottram (left) seen through the racket of his partner McMillan.

Wimbledon prices up and facilities improved

By Rex Bellamy

The cost of a centre court seat during the last three days of the Wimbledon championships, to be played from June 22 to July 4, has been raised from £8 to £11. Air Chief Marshal, Sir Brian Burnett, the chairman of the championships committee, said yesterday: "There is a feeling that we have always undercharged for the last three days. We believe it still represents extremely good value compared with other major sporting events."

Seat prices on the two main courts will again be increased every three days. All will cost more than they did a year ago, except for the last three days on court No 1. The ultimate price on the centre court shows the largest percentage increase, 37.5. But on court No 2, the combined cost of admittance to the grounds and a seat has been raised from £3.50 to £5, an increase of 42.8 per cent. The cost of admittance to the grounds is unchanged at £2.

Customers can expect slightly less congestion on the promenades. Catering facilities will be relocated. There will be 1,250 more seats on court No 1, raising the seating capacity to 6,350, and possibly a larger stand overlooking court 14. Additional scoreboards on the promenades outside the main courts may further reduce congestion. Wimbledon still intend to restrict to 31,000 the crowd inside the grounds at any one time.

Wimbledon are spending about £2.75m on ground improvements. Apart from the public's extra seating, the immediate beneficiaries, at the southern end of Court No 1, will be the players (an enlarged restaurant, a new lounging area, and a relocated women's dressing room), the referee and umpires, and the ball boys and ball girls. Court No 1 will also have new scoreboards, electronically controlled — the first stage of a system that will eventually improve information services throughout the premises.

The prize money for the seven main events, including the two plate competitions, has been increased by 8 per cent, from £275,579 to £297,796. The men's singles winner will receive £21,600, the women's £19,440. Only 16 players in each singles will earn more than the plate winners. Even when Wimbledon's £24,340 contribution to the grand prix bonus pool is included, the total of £322,136 falls a long way short of the announced figure of about £425,500 for the United States championships (which represents four times the maximum increase supposedly agreed by the organizers of the four grand slam tournaments).

"I don't think we should slavishly follow what the Americans do," Sir Brian said yesterday. "Big money does not necessarily bring you the best tournament in the world. The prize money is already too high, but we think some increase is right, because of inflation and so on."

Wimbledon still refuse to accept the authority of the men's grand prix supervisors but, under pressure, have agreed that four supervisors may advise the referee and the championships committee on the grand prix rules and the code of conduct. The supervisors' spokesman will be Kurt Nielsen, which is a reminder that Wimbledon have dropped the veterans' event because of the declining quality of the entry. As a consequence the maximum entries for the junior singles have been increased.

Local residents will be pleased to know that in an effort to discourage the occasional nuisance of overnight queueing, Wimbledon will again sell all centre court seats in advance. Nor are any permanent structures envisaged—merely a "village" of marquees—by the four new courts

Cricket

Over-rate culprits face fines in Australia

From Dilip Rao
Sydney, Jan 6

The Australian Cricket Board, when they meet here on January [illegible], will take strong measures against declining over rates, possibly by introducing a system of fines. There were earlier moves in that direction, but legislation was stayed when state captains gave assurances that they would lift the pace of the game during the current summer.

But the tempo has fallen rather than been stepped up and officials of the board view declining over rates as one of the primary causes for crowds staying away from Sheffield Shield games and Test matches.

In the circumstances, the board might also give consideration to reverting to the eight-ball over, used in Australia for many years, until the season of 1978-79. The change has undoubtedly reduced the number of balls delivered during an hour. Australians consider a hundred to be the minimum acceptable limit.

In the third Test match between Australia and India which ended here on Sunday, Australian bowlers sent down 75 balls per hour of India's first innings and 81 in the second, during which the leg-spinner, Higgs, was extensively used against the wind. India delivered 80 balls per hour, and that despite Doshi, a spinner, bowling 27.

As far as this series is concerned, *not* all the blame for slow over rates must fall on the bowlers. Dennis Lillee, for instance, marched up to his start in the manner of a guardsman on parade and was recorded as taking three minutes and 34 seconds to get through an over. Kapil Dev took eight seconds less and both spinners finished a *normal over* (that is one in which there was no excessive boundary-hitting) in less than three minutes.

Delays seem to be more prolonged during the changeover of fields between overs and the donning, doffing and storage of the helmet by the short-leg fieldsman. The England series in Australia of 1954-55, the one made famous by Tyson and Statham, *is often* pointed to as the starting point of slow over rates in Test cricket.

That may be historical fact, but it is interesting to compare current over rates with those achieved by Tyson, Statham, Loader and Bailey under Sir Leonard Hutton. They averaged 11 eight-ball overs per hour.

Procter captain again

Mike Procter will captain Gloucestershire for the fifth successive season in 1981. He will fly from South Africa for the annual meeting in Bristol on February 9 when he will be formally nominated. Procter, who has played for Gloucestershire since 1968, is coach and marketing director to the Natal Cricket Association.

Doshi heads India's new spin attack

From Dilip Rao
Sydney, Jan 6

Bishen Bedi and Bhagwat Chandrasekhar, *principal* wicket-takers for India in their last series in Australia, three years ago, are sitting by their wireless sets to follow India's present fortunes against Australia. In the first Test at Sydney, India were badly beaten and brought no joy to their supporters.

Erapalli Prasanna, the third prong of India's celebrated spin attack of the *late 1960s and 1970s*, will be closer to the action. He has recently made his home in Adelaide, where he plies his trade as an electronics engineer. For the first time since England in 1967, India are on tour without any of that famous trio or their other stalwart, Venkataraghavan, but are by no means a weak side. There has been a redistribution of strength and the Indians are a better balanced side than for a long time.

The pace bowlers now play a more prominent role, though by any modern Test standards India's newly-formed spin attack is still of considerable quality. The mantle of Bedi has fallen on Dilip Doshi, who took more than 100 wickets for Warwickshire last summer. An economical bowler, Doshi is the senior and the pick of three spinners in the touring party.

The others are off spinners, but of different styles. Shivlal Yadav, only 23, is a considerable spinner *of the ball, but still in the process* of perfecting control and acquiring subtlety. Even in his first Test, last winter, he showed courage in his preparedness to flight the ball, not least when under attack.

The other off-spinner, Kirti Azad, is of a much quicker kind. It is not, however, his bowling that has earned him his first tour, for he is also a lively batsman.

Sunil Gavaskar, the captain, will *not be displeased with the* composition of his attack, for he is biased towards the seamer. For the sake of entertainment, however, it is hoped that Viswanath, his vice-captain and brother-in-law can influence him to strike a more even balance.

Gavaskar is captaining India on tour for the first time, although he did have one victorious Test abroad, in New Zealand, when he was Bedi's second in command. The Sydney defeat ended his unbeaten record of 18 Tests as captain, not all of them in a row, thanks to his frequent jousts with the officialdom of Indian cricket.

Oxlade's successful day comes to painful end

Geelong, Jan 6.—New Zealand were made *to toil by a spirited* batting performance by Geelong and Districts on the opening day of their three-day match here today. The Victoria provincial team were 306 for five in their *first innings at the close*, but the day ended unhappily for their opening batsman, Peter Oxlade.

Oxlade had made the top score of 95 when he was forced to retire hurt 10 minutes before the end of the day. Richard Hadlee, the New Zealand pace bowler, hit him with two deliveries to the midriff and a third to the forehead. Oxlade, who batted without a helmet, was taken to hospital for observation.

He had been the cornerstone of Geelong's consistently effective effort against a New Zealand side whose out-cricket was marked by casual fielding and dropped catches. *Hadlee*, showing pace and fire in his opening spell, sent back *Whitten in the first over, but as* Geelong recovered the touring team seemed content to bowl short *of a length to a defensive field.*

Oxlade added 56 for the second wicket with Lynch, 79 for the fourth with Anderton, and 80 for the sixth with Ward before he was injured.

GEELONG: First innings

R. Whitten, c Edgar, b Hadlee	1
P. Oxlade, retired hurt	95
C. Lynch, c Smith, b Chatfield	31
M. Seeckis, c Chatfield, b Bracewell	33
G. Anderton, c Lees, b Cairns	46
R. Button, b Bracewell	25
G. Ward, not out	51
F. Meek, not out	5
Extras (l-b 12, n-b 9)	21
Total (5 wkts)	306

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—2, 2—58, 3—106, 4—186, 5—217.

BOWLING to date: Hadlee 19—1—67—1. Snedden 19—1—58—0. Cairns 20—3—65—1. Chatfield 18—5—37—1. Bracewell 21—7—58—2.—Reuter.

Bournemouth event in jeopardy again

For the third time in five years, the British hard court tennis championships, traditionally staged at Bournemouth and due *to celebrate its golden jubilee* this year, have been put in jeopardy by the withdrawal of the sponsor. It was announced yesterday that Kosset Carpets would not be taking up their option to promote the championships at the West Hants club, starting on April 20.

Dai Davies, the marketing director, said: "This decision is taken with regret and after considerable thought and discussion. The economic climate means that every penny must go into direct promotion. Hopefully, when things improve, we can again become *involved in British* tennis."

Crossley Carpets, part of the same organization, have already announced they will not be sponsoring the women's international tournament at *Chichester* in June. *That event has been moved to* Nottingham, but so far no sponsor has been named.

The hard court championships, once regarded as the most important home tournament outside Wimbledon, have had a chequered history.

The *championships* have had three sponsors since 1976, and the event was not held in 1977 or 1979. Now it is in danger of being dropped from the British calendar once more. With the tournament moved from September to April, in an attempt to attract *a stronger entry, little time is left* to open negotiations with another sponsor.

BOLOGNA: Charity tournament: B. Borg (Sweden) beat B. Taroczy (Hungary) 6—3, 3—6, 6—0; J. Clerc (Argentina) beat I. Nastase (Romania) 6—3, 7—5.

Authoritative Heath given little trouble by Shann

By Lewine Mair

In his first round in the Prudential junior covered courts championship at Queen's Club, London, Paul Heath, the top seed, was never given any trouble by the under-14 national champion, David Shann.

In winning 6—1, 6—0, Heath played with an authority befitting one who has just returned from a month of tournament play in the United States. The rallies were over quickly and, though Shann can look gifted when competing *in his own age group*, he must surely have been wishing yesterday that his dyed golden hair was an anonymous shade of brown.

Elizabeth Jones, the number one girl seed, was also up *against* one of the younger competitors. Miss Jones, aged 16, may look sullen on court and make a lot of noise, but the angry smack she gives a tennis ball makes her an exciting player to watch. She put Joanne Louis, just 13, in her place by hitting some searing ground shots to win the first set 6—1, but thereafter, had to work rather harder.

Nicholas Fulwood, the number two seed, defeated Roderick Coull, of Essex, 6—4, 6—1, in a match *which* contained some of the best rallies of the day. At 4—4 in the first set Fulwood went ahead after a game including a breathtaking point in which he got to three near *impossible* balls before passing his opponent.

One of the more surprising results of the first round was the morning defeat of Peter Moore by Anton Lakatos. Moore has only just returned to Britain after reaching the final of the under-14 section of a tournament in New York. Even if Moore was not at his best Lakatos deserved plenty of credit for the way he chased about the court.

Lakatos won the first set 6—4 but was soon behind in the second, *losing it 6—3. Moore at that point* was the favourite but Lakatos made fewer mistakes and won a cautious third set 6—3.

BOYS' SINGLES: First round: D. Shaw beat P. Fubini, 6—1, 6—1; A. Castle beat N. Grunfeld, 3—6, 7—6, 6—3; C. Smith beat T. Stern, 7—5, 7—5; D. Donovan beat M. Collins, 6—3, 1—6, 7—5; D. Felgate beat C. Kermode, 6—4, 6—1; C. Haworth beat P. Treen, 6—3, 6—3; P. Heath beat D. Shann, 6—1, 6—0; S. Bale beat S. Richards, 6—4, 6—2; T. Pyatt beat K. Hodges, 7—6, 6—0; A. Lakatos beat P. Moore, 6—4, 3—6, 6—3; N. Beedham beat S. Panlling, 6—0, 6—1; N. Fulwood beat R. Coull, 6—4, 6—1.

GIRLS' SINGLES: First round: E. Jones beat J. Louis, 6—1, 6—4; S. Gomer beat S. Davies, 6—1, 6—0; M. Woodthorpe beat M. Cass, 7—6, 6—3; A. Brown beat J. Farnish, 6—0, 6—3.

ADELAIDE: South Australian open championships: R. Case beat P. Johnston 7—5, 4—6, 6—3; Drewett beat R. Fisher (US) 6—4, 7—5; C. Lewis (NZ) beat P. Cash 6—3, 6—1; W. Pascoe beat J. Delaule (US) 3—6, 6—2, 6—3; E. *Edwards (S Africa)* beat U. Marten (W Germany) 5—7, 6—4, 6—4; J. Fitzgerald beat J. Smith (GB) 6—3, 6—4; D. Collings beat C. Dibley 7—5, 6—2.

AUCKLAND: New Zealand open championship: Men's singles: First round: W. Scanlon (US) beat S. Docherty (Australia) 5—7, 6—3, 7—5; M. Estep (US) beat G. Petrovic (US) 6—2, 6—3; R. Simpson beat D. Siegler (US) 6—4, 6—3; J. Graham (US) beat B. Dertin, 6—1, 6—4; W. Martin (US) beat A. Gardiner (Australia) 6—4, 6—4; J. Simpson beat R. Frawley (Australia), 6—3, 6—4.

Champion's opener

New York, Jan 6.—Bjorn Borg, the defending champion, will meet José Luis Clerc in his opening match in the Grand Prix Masters tennis championship, which starts on January 14. The other players in the event are: John McEnroe, Gene Mayer, Jimmy Connors, Harold Solomon, Ivan Lendl and Guillermo Vilas.—Reuter.

Eight women players with a mission

Landover, Maryland, Jan 6.—Tracy Austin, Chris Lloyd, Andrea Jaeger, Hana Mandlikova, Martina Navratilova, Virginia Ruzici, Pam Shriver and Wendy Turnbull—these eight top women players in the world will be competing against each other in the $250,000 women's Masters tournament here from tomorrow to Monday.

Each woman has something different to prove: Mrs Lloyd that she is still the champion she was; Miss Navratilova seeded fifth, low for her, that she is not losing *her touch*; *Miss Ruzici*, and Miss Turnbull, that they are more than just solid players; Miss Austin, Miss Jaeger and Miss Shriver that they are here to stay in the world of tennis; lastly Miss Mandlikova, the *top seed here, that she is as* much a star as she has looked recently, winning four of the last six tournaments she has played in.

The slow surface should favour Mrs Lloyd, Miss Austin and Miss Mandlikova. Mrs Lloyd stormed back to top-flight tennis this season after her brief retirement from the game, winning the French and United States titles and being runner-up at Wimbledon. Miss Mandlikova, who has so far improved her game under the shrewd eye of Betty Stove, reached the United States open final and finished the season top of the *Grand Prix standings.*

The big titles eluded *Miss Austin* and Miss Navratilova. For each the season which ends with the Masters, was frustrating and a case of marking time. Tomorrow's programme is: Miss Navratilova (US) v Miss Turnbull (Australia); Miss Ruzici (Romania) v Miss Austin (US); Miss Mandlikova (Czechoslovakia) v Miss Jaeger (US); Mrs Lloyd (US) v Miss Shriver (US).

Badminton

Delfs beaten in semi-final

Copenhagen, Jan 6.—Britons and Indonesian men are set to dominate the finals of the $12,500 Copenhagen Cup international tournament.

Hadianto, of Indonesia, won a hard-fought battle over Flemming Delfs of Denmark in yesterday's semi-final round, although Delfs took the first set 17—16. Afterwards Delfs seemed to lose his eye for the lines and Hadianto *prevailed*, 15—6, 15—10.

Denmark's Morten Frost suffered a similar setback after a 15—11 success in the first set over Pongoh of Indonesia, but Pongoh recovered to win.

MEN'S DOUBLES: Kartono and Harlanto (Indonesia) beat Nordin and L. Wengberg (Sweden), 17—15, 15—10; T. Kihlstrom and S. Karlsson (Sweden) beat M. Tredgett and E. Suton (GB), 15—5, 11—15, 15—3.
WOMEN'S DOUBLES: N. Perry and J. Webster (GB) beat S. Leadbetter and H. Troke (GB), 15—7, 15—0; G. Gilks and P. Kilvington (GB) beat L. Köppen and A. Skovgaard, 17—18, 15—4, 15—4.
MIXED DOUBLES: M. Tredgett and N. Perry (GB) beat M. Dow and S. Leadbetter (GB), 15—5, 15—6; R. Ridder and M. Ridder (Netherlands) beat C. Nordin and L. Axelsson (Sweden), 15—12, 15—6.—AP.

Three victories for Hall

By Richard Streeton

Darren Hall, of Chingford, who is coached by his cousin, Ray Stevens, the national champion, won three titles yesterday in the under-15 English national junior badminton championships at the Watford leisure centre. The girls' singles went to Sue Louis, of Exmouth, the first Devonian to win a title at this tournament, which is sponsored by Friends' Provident.

Today the four-day under-18 event gets under way. Once again the overall standard so far this week has been high. If previous history is anything to go by, all the individual winners and several others among the 330 entries should go on to represent England at senior level. Since the championships were launched with the under-18 event in 1949-50, they have provided England with 45 international players, including 11 title winners at the all-England event, a *remarkable* tribute to the various national coaching and development schemes.

Without playing to his full potential, Hall was quicker and showed better anticipation as he beat Robert Baddeley, of Hove, in an exciting boys' final by 15—5, 13—15, 15—10. Both players, the top seeds, used the whole court and shared some exciting rallies. Hall, conceding height and reach, sometimes made things harder for himself by playing too short but he was usually steadier at crucial moments.

Miss Louis, a sturdy, strong hitter, displayed a calm temperament as she came from way behind in each game to beat Natalie Roope, of Frimley, by 12—10, 12—10. *In the first game* Miss Louis was 2—10 down and in the second she was 6—10 down. Each time she retrieved magnificently and varied her tactics shrewdly against an opponent who, *though she looked better technically* and hit some good winners, made too many costly errors under pressure.

RESULTS: Finals: Boys singles: D. J. Hall beat R. W. Baddeley, 15—5, 13—15, 15—10. Doubles: A. J. Downs and Hall beat Baddeley and J. M. Prior, 15—7, 15—6. Girls singles: Miss S. Louis beat Miss N. S. Roope, 12—10, 12—10. Doubles: Miss A. D. Fisher and Miss Roope beat Miss D. J. Thomas and Miss L. A. Thomas 15—18, 15—12, 15—3. Mixed doubles: Hall and Miss Fisher beat *Baddeley and Miss L. J. Chapman*, 18—16, 15—7.

Racing

Market Rasen programme

1.0 JANUARY HURDLE (Handicap: Selling: £486: 2m)
2 42p-002 Boniless, H. Wharton, 6-11-10 ... S. Youlden 7
3 p0/010-0 Madison Square (D), J. Fitzgerald, 6-11-9 ... T. Carmody
4 01-0000 Brahms and Liszt (CD), A. Balding, 5-11-6 ... M. Murphy
5 0-00 Orley Farm, J. Hardy, 5-11-5 ... A. Brown
7 2210-00 Chaperon (D), J. Harris, 5-10-13 ... J. A. Harris 7
11 0000 Billy Kip, W. Wright, 4-10-12 ... C. Tinkler
12 0401p0 Ghosting (D, B) W. Clay, 5-10-9 ... N. Clay
13 0-00000 Rachel Street (B), G. Vergette, 5-10-9 ... P. J. Kelly
15 032 Roander, W. Marshall, 4-10-5 ... M. Harrington 7
16 0-04424 Winking Fields, D. Weeden, 5-10-5 ... P. Scudamore
17 2002/f0 *Lilah Helen*, A. Balding, 6-10-5 ... P. Murphy 4
18 0p0ff-p Mount Glow, Mrs A. Harvey, 5-10-4 ... G. Sanderson 7
19 0-00f03 The Surveyor, R. Hollinshead, 5-10-3 ... D. Carcary 7
20 0000 Ulley Oak, J. Harris, 5-10-3 ... S. Keightley 7
22 p0f-000 Lombardina, P. Green, 5-10-0 ... J. McLaughlin 4
24 00fp-u4 Julie Simone, T. Kersey, 6-10-0 ... G. Kersey 4
5-1 Orley Farm, 4-1 Boniless, 5-1 Roander, 13-2 Chaperon, 7-1 Winking Fields, 8-1 Julie Simone, 10-1 Madison Square, 14-1 others.

1.30 SLEAFORD HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £552: 2m)
201 p Brimblecombe, O. Brennan, 6-12-0 ... M. Brennan 7
204 040-002 Lunar Wind, J. Parks, 6-12-0 ... D. McCaskill 7
209 p-00 Stand Up, R. Wright, 6-12-0 ... Miss J. Wright
210 0p0 Time Cents, C. Mackenzie, 6-12-0 ... G. Kennard 7
213 440433 Belle Isle Boy, W. Smith, 5-11-7 ... D. Wilkinson 4
214 p00p42 Chrisarah, W. Wright, 5-11-7 ... C. Tinkler
216 Gambling Fox, K. Morgan, 5-11-7 ... A. Webb
218 Kirdum, R. Robinson, 5-11-7 ... M. Pepper 7
219 -- Mountain Man, D. Morley, 5-11-7 ... B. R. Davies
221 Polo Pop, Denys Smith, 5-11-7 ... C. Grant
222 0 Rodenham, W. A. Stephenson, 5-11-7 ... Mr E. McIntyre 7
224 Show of Hands, M. Dickinson, 5-11-7 ... T. Carmody
227 f404 Wendys Whizz Kid, D. Todd, 5-11-7 ... C. Hawkins
228 000 Wilton Beacon, J. Harris, 5-11-7 ... J. Harris 7
231 00 Eyelight, R. Hollinshead, 4-11-0 ... C. Astbury
232 Northern King, T. Kersey, 4-11-0 ... G. Kersey 4
233 04 Renovate, J. Hardy, 4-11-0 ... A. Brown
234 00 Smart Guard, B. Richmond, 4-11-0 ... M. Murphy
13-8 Show of Hands, 4-1 Mountain Man, 5-1 Lunar Wind, 13-2 Renovate, 8-1 Belle Isle Boy, 10-1 Chrisarah, Polo Pop, 12-1 Gambling Fox, 16-1 others.

2.0 HORNCASTLE CHASE (Novices: £1,291: 2m)
301 0/02211 Why So (D), Denys Smith, 8-12-5 ... C. Grant
302 01-122u Spin Again (D), D. Morley, 6-11-12 ... B. R. Davies
304 30/0000 All Divine, G. Vergette, 7-11-5 ... P. J. Kelly
305 22033-3 Autumn Glow, N. Chamberlain, 8-11-5 ... D. McCaskill 7
306 0030-0f Cole Porter, M. Banks, 6-11-5 ... G. McCourt
307 110300/ Et Tu, K. Morgan, 9-11-5 ... A. Webb
308 2043p/0 *Five Bells*, J. Fitzgerald, 8-11-5 ... G. Bradley 7
311 00-0003 Lucky Rew, W. A. Stephenson, 6-11-5 ... Mr E. McIntyre
312 0000/00 Mac, C. Mackenzie, 8-11-5 ... G. Kennard 7
313 0?300h- Mudir, H. Hanmer, 7-11-5 ... Mr R. Crawford
317 2032-04 Regalus, H. Westbrook, 7-11-5 ... S. Smith Eccles
318 p Somerson, Mrs J. Cundall, 8-11-5 ... P. A. Charlton
320 000f0 Wave Goodbye, J. Fitzgerald, 7-11-5 ... E. Miller 4
321 010-000 Denton, W. Wharton, 5-11-0 ... S. J. O'Neill
322 000 General Factotum, W. A. Stephenson, 5-11-0 ... E. Burns 7
13-8 Spin Again, 7-4 Why So, 6-1 Autumn Glow, 7-1 Regalus, 9-1 Lucky Rew, 14-1 others.

2.30 STAMFORD CHASE (Handicap: £2,173: 3m)
403 1f2/4-p3 Tragus, D. Morley, 9-11-5 ... B. R. Davies
405 0r110p Duc de Bolebec, G. Fairbairn, 8-11-3 ... T. Carmody
406 1p/211-f Bryan Boru (CD, B), D. Gandolfo, 10-11-1 ... P. Barton
410 ?42113 Mullacrew (CD), J. Leigh, 12-10-8 ... Mr L. Kirby 4
412 921/400 Tangle Lad, W. Wharton, 8-10-0 ... S. J. O'Neill
413 304200 Turk (CD), L. Furman, 9-10-0 ... A. Coogan
414 212102 Hello Louis (D), Mrs G. Reveley, 11-10-0 ... C. Kelly
415 af00-bp Lucy Parker (CD), J. Fawkes, 10-10-0 ... Mr J. Holt 7
416 p/120p-f Merry Crown (CD), D. Garraton, 12-10-0 ... P. A. Charlton
418 33f02/0 Linarie, F. Colon, 10-10-0 ... Miss Lucy King 4
11-4 Bryan Boru, 100-30 Tragus, 5-1 Duc de Bolebec, 13-2 Mullacrew, 8-1 Hello Louis, 10-1 Turk, Merry Crown, 12-1 Tangle Lad, 16-1 others.

3.0 SLEAFORD HURDLE (Div II: Novices: £552: 2m)
502 00-2 Arctic Tribune, Miss S. Hall, 7-12-0 ... D. Wilkinson 4
503 00/p??-0 Comerce, R. Barr, 6-12-0 ... P. Murphy 4
504 42000/ Devas, D. Ringer, 8-12-0 ... Mr J. Ringer 7
505 00-3?00 Gold Shoveler, K. Stone, 6-12-0 ... C. Hawkins
507 4000/00 Sariki, L. Parry, 6-12-0 ... A. Brown
511 p0-03 Rubber Legs, W. Marshall, 5-11-7 ... M. Harrington 7
515 003 Aluwhile Venture, A. Goodwill, 4-11-0 ... A. Coogan 4
516 0 Beryl's Gift, G. Harman, 4-11-0 ... C. Tinkler
518 00 D'Orleans, A. Cox, 4-11-0 ... M. O'Connor 7
520 30 *Falkland Palace*, D. Morley, 4-11-0 ... B. R. Davies
521 b00 Fyldon, O. Brennan, 4-11-0 ... M. Brennan 7
523 0 Mikadora (B), T. Kersey, 4-11-0 ... G. Kersey 4
525 00 Miss Suki, W. Clay, 4-11-0 ... N. Clay
526 00 Philnorm, D. Gandolfo, 4-11-0 ... P. Barton
530 300 Swing the Axe, D. Weeden, 4-11-0 ... P. Scudamore
531 0000 Tacoma, C. Drew, 4-11-0 ... T. Bulgin 7
532 0 Wensum Girl, P. Richmond, 4-11-0 ... M. O'Shea
5-1 Rubber Legs, 4-1 *Arctic Tribune*, 9-2 Swing the Axe, 11-2 Falkland Palace, 7-1 Gold Shoveler, 10-1 Aluwhile Venture, 12-1 Beryl's Gift, 14-1 others.

3.30 LINCOLN OPPORTUNITY CHASE (Handicap: £1,409: 2m 5f)
601 41113-2 Kenlis (C), M. Dickinson, 10-12-2 ... G. Bradley
603 112300 Magic Tipp (C), J. *Fitzgerald*, 8-11-6 ... M. *Brennan* 3
607 0-f0223 Impus, R. Robinson, 8-10-5 ... M. Pepper 3
608 10321-0 Golden Jest (CD), W. A. Stephenson, 7-10-3 ... E. Burns 3
609 fp-0204 Birshell, J. Harris, 10-10-3 ... S. Keightley
610 01/0000- Dalket (C), R. Wright, 16-10-3 ... C. McSherry 3
611 34-p000 King's Confidant (C), J. Blundell, 7-10-3 ... D. Dutton 3
11-10 Kenlis, 13-3 Magic Tipp, 6-1 Impus, 10-1 Golden Jest, 14-1 others.

Red Mills can win for Dickinson

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

Michael Dickinson spreads his wings far and wide today in the hope of increasing his already impressive tally in his first season as a trainer. He will have runners at both Carlisle and Market Rasen and no one should be surprised if he has winners at both courses.

Having beaten Skewsby by six lengths at Wetherby on Boxing Day, Red Mills is likely to start as hot favourite to win the Brampton Opportunity Handicap Hurdle at Carlisle. Skewsby, after beating Botanist at Doncaster six days earlier, was clear favourite to win at Wetherby, but Dickinson's belief that Red Mills could win was duly upheld.

Show of Hands, Dickinson's runner in the first division of the Sleaford Novices Hurdle at Market Rasen, won on the flat at Newcastle and Thirsk last year when he was trained by Jeremy Hindley. He now has a good chance to make a successful start to his jumping career, because *his opposition* this afternoon looks very weak.

Kenlis, another Dickinson horse, might have beaten Prince Bid at Worcester in November had he *not* completely misjudged the very last fence. That error knocked all the stuffing out of him and he tired on the run-in. Golden Jest looks his principal danger in today's Lincoln Opportunity Handicap Steeplechase.

Earlier in the day Bryan Boru should win the Stamford Handicap Steeplechase, which is the most valuable race of the day. Last season he won two of his three races, finishing second in the other, and I am convinced that he would have been in the shake-up at Leicester last month had he not fallen at the third last fence. Tragus had some good form once, but he did not run well enough at Fontwell Park last week to encourage me to think that he will beat Bryan Boru now.

This has been a memorable season for Jenny Pitman, who trains in Upper Lambourn and landed her first treble at Worcester only last Saturday. Yesterday, however was definitely not one of her better days.

In the morning her appeal against Monty Python's disqualification at Fontwell Park last week was turned down by the Jockey Club's disciplinary stewards in London. *Mrs Pitman* then hurried off to the same Sussex course to see the same horse run in the Robert Gore Memorial Steeplechase.

She expected him to win, but again she was disappointed because Monty Python did not jump particularly well and in the end he was put firmly in his place by both Medoc and Abo. In my *opinion Abo would have won if* he had not clouted the third last fence and all but unshipped his young rider, Gary Moore. Indeed Moore did extremely well to even get back in the saddle and it was not until he had jumped the next fence that he regained his stirrups.

Another mistake at the last *finally put paid to Abo's chance* of catching Medoc. Steve Smith Eccles seized on Abo's misfortune to take the prize on Medoc, who was nearly put down 18 months ago because he had been lame for a year. *Medoc* is owned by an American, Peter Thompson, who would have flown from his home in Maryland to see Medoc run if his trainer, Tim Forster, had not put him off the day before because of a *bad weather* forecast.

Mr Thompson originally bought Medoc so that he could give Charlie Fenwick, his good friend and fellow American, some experience of race riding in this country before what turned out to be his triumphant attempt to win the Grand National last year on Ben Nevis. Now, in spite of being lame from time to time, Medoc is beginning to pay his own way at last.

Smith Eccles also hoped to win the Petworth Handicap Steeplechase, but his mount, Dewy's Quay, who started favourite, never looked like catching Grey Fusilier. *I suspect that Dewy's Quay may* have been unnerved after slipping up on the flat on his last visit to the same course only a week earlier.

Grey Fusilier has a remarkable pedigree for a steeplechaser. He is by Track Spare, who won the Middle Park Stakes over six furlongs at Newmarket, and out of Petite Path, who was fast enough *to win the Queen Mary Stakes* at Royal Ascot and the Ayr Gold Cup.

Wilkinson learns from his Catterick error

David Wilkinson, who lost the race after winning at Catterick Bridge on Raemac last Thursday *when he failed to weigh in*, made no mistake at Stockton yesterday when the 4—1 chance, Caroline Lamb, took the first division of the Shotton Novices Hurdle. Caroline Lamb, who easily accounted for the 7—4 favourite, Home Ground, by three lengths, took up the running approaching the last. This time Wilkinson was sharply reminded to weigh in.

Caroline Lamb is home-bred by the mother of Sally Hall, the trainer, and beat some possible Express Triumph Hurdle hopes in the race. Miss Hall said: "That's *eight winners this season* for me from just nine horses. Caroline Lamb was highly strung when racing on the flat, but seems to have calmed down now."

Charlotte Saville-Deane, a one-horse permit holder, landed her first winner when Sanskritik (11-1) beat Meg's Mantle by five lengths in the Blackhall Selling Handicap Hurdle. Sanskritik, who cost 1,600 guineas *at the Newmarket Sales*, provided some consolation for Miss Saville-Deane, as her first horse, Bingo Liz, had to be put down on the course with a broken hip. Sanskritik, always jumping boldly, led approaching the last and went on to win easily. Sanskritik was bought in for 1,100 guineas.

Stockton results

12.45 (12.46) SHOTTON HURDLE (Div I: 4-y-o novices: £345: 2m 176yd)
CAROLINE LAMB, br f, by Holfoot—Young Lamb (Mrs T. Hall), 10-5 ... D. Wilkinson (4-1) 1
Home Ground ... Mr T. Easterby (7-4 fav) 2
Snow Blessed ... P. A. Charlton (10-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 30p; places, 21p, 13p, 47p. Dual F: 32p. CSF: £1.21. Miss S. Hall, at Middleham. 3l, 3l. Noddy's Ryde (14-1) 4th. 17 ran. NR: *Governor's Camp*

1.15 (1.17) BLACKHALL HURDLE (Handicap: Selling: £427: 2m 176yd)
SANSKRITIK, b g, by Dynastic (USA)—Say Grace (Miss C. Saville-Deane), 5-10-11 ... P. A. Charlton (11-1) 1
Meg's Mantle ... C. Hawkins (10-1) 2
Flautist ... C. Tinkler (7-1) 3
TOTE: Win, £1.45; places, 22p, 50p, 47p. Dual F: £13.33. CSF: £11.87. Miss C. Saville-Deane, at Malton. 5l, 7l. Baron de Holland (5-1 fav) 4th. 15 ran. Winner was bought for 1,100 gns.

1.45 (1.49) HARTLEPOOL CHASE (Handicap: £1,385: 2½m)
KING VULTURE, b g, by Osprey Hawk—Ballymice (C. Masterson), 8-10-2 ... N. Doughty (7-1) 1
Selby ... A. Brown (5-1) 2
Even Melody ... C. Hawkins (8-1) 3
TOTE: Win, £1.45; places, 30p, 27p, 54p. Dual F: £3.04. CSF: £2.61. G. Richards, at Greystoke. 1l, 2½l. Murray's Gift (9-4 fav) 4th. 9 ran. NR: Airparts Flyer.

2.15 (2.22) EASINGTON HURDLE (Handicap: £660: 2m 176yd)
ANOINTED, b g, by Crowned Prince—Saint Agela (Mrs L. Kitchingman), 5-11-3 ... R. Barry (13-2) 1
Splendid Again ... N. Balmer (100-30 fav) 2
Kilburn Boy ... P. A. Charlton (7-1) 3
Arc Prince ... S. J. O'Neill (15-2) 4
TOTE: Win, 50p; places, 12p, 10p, 17p, 33p. Dual F: £1.45. CSF: £2.75. G. Richards, at Greystoke. 3l, 3l, 2l. 17 ran.

2.45 (2.53) SEAHAM CHASE (Novices: £674: 3m 31yd)
GO WIMPY, ch g, by Richboy—Onyx (Tulsa J. & D. Ltd.), 6-11-6 ... T. Carmody (5-1) 1
Running Wild ... R. Lamb (5-1) 2
Midnight Love ... C. Grant (100-30 fav) 3
TOTE: Win, 50p; places, 13p, 30p, 1?p. Dual F: £3.95. CSF: £3.01. M. Dickinson, at Harewood. 2l, ¾l. The Heenan Kid (16-1) 4th. 20 ran.

3.15 (3.26) SHOTTON HURDLE (4-y-o novices: £345: 2m 176yd)
SUNLIT RIVER, br f, by Roi Soleil—River Moy (W. Carrick), 10-9 ... P. A. Charlton (4-1) 1
Brown's Babu ... C. Grant (14-1) 2
Jane Roy ... P. Tuck (10-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 56p; places, 19p, 42p, 29p. Dual F: £1.12. CSF: £6.61. W. Haigh, at Malton. 2l, ½l. Kinaspre Gal 11-4 fav. Lambrusco (12-1) 4th. 21 ran. Placepot: £13.65.

STATE OF GOING (official): Market Rasen: Good to soft. Carlisle: Heavy. Tomorrow: Lingfield Park: Chase course, good to soft. Hurdles course, soft. Taunton: Good.

Fontwell Park

1.0 (1.1) WALBERTON CHASE (Novices: £1,188: 2¼m 110yd)
FAMOUS FOOTSTEPS, ch g, by Jimmy Reppin—Cherry Traces (M. Sanderson), 6-10-6 ... M. Coyle (8-1) 1
Daviot ... H. Davies (7-1) 2
Go Arrowsmith ... A. Webber (4-1 fav) 3
TOTE: Win, £1.81; places, 52p, 21p, 15p. Dual F: £9.26. CSF: £6.16. Miss A. Sinclair, at Lewes. 2½l, 3l. Toyco (5-1) 4th. 12 ran. NR: Norfolk Dance.

1.30 (1.34) LIDSEY HURDLE (Handicap: Selling: £585: 2¼m)
GLEN WISE, b m, by Fair Decision—Glen Pavch (M. Burrow), 5-10-3 ... R. Rowell (10-1) 1
Double Header ... G. Old (11-1) 2
Allanstown ... G. Gracey (25-1) 3
TOTE: Win, £1.37; places, 20p, 33p, 39p. Dual F: £4.16. CSF: £11.51. B. Wise, at Polegate. 2l, 2½l. Vagabond Victor 100-30 fav. Further Folly (8-1) 4th. 13 ran. Winner was bought for 880 gns.

2.0 (2.1) ROBERT GORE CHASE (Handicap: £2,572: 3¼m 1f 4l)
MEDOC, ch g, by Perspex—Archive (P. Thompson), 9-10-7 ... S. Smith Eccles (5-2 jt) 1
Abo ... G. Moore (7-2) 2
Monty Python ... B. Smart (11-4) 3
TOTE: Win, 21p; places, 18p, 26p. Dual F: 36p. CSF: £1.10. T. Forster, at Wantage. 2½l, 2l. Tight Schedule (50-1) 4th. 6 ran.

2.30 (2.36) PULBOROUGH HURDLE (Div I) (Novices: £553: 2¼m)
LADY MONTEGNA, b f, by Andrea Mantegna—Grand Central (Mrs L. Flowers), 4-10-5 ... M. Floyd (7-1) 1
Anex ... A. Webb (4-1 fav) 2
Trampler ... A. Turnell (5-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 79p; places, 28p, 21p, 20p. Dual F: £1.91. CSF: £5.55. D. Laing, at Newbury. 3l, 15l. New Harbour (12-1) 4th. 18 ran. NR: Chinese Takeaway.

3.0 (3.5) PETWORTH CHASE (Handicap: £1,576: 2¼m 110yd)
GREY FUSILIER, gr g, by Track Spare—Petite Path (T. Hayward), 6-10-3 ... S. Shilston (7-2) 1
Queen of the Bogs ... A. Webber (12-1) 2
Dewy's Quay ... S. Smith Eccles (11-10 fav) 3
TOTE: Win, 38p; places, 16p, 26p. Dual F: £1.64. CSF: £4.38. Mrs N. Smith, at Chichester. 8l, 1½l. Shackleton's Filly (14-1) 4th. 7 ran.

3.30 (3.36) PULBOROUGH HURDLE (Div II, novices: £552: 2¼m)
SANDHAVEN, ch c, by Sandford Lad—Phobos Car, 10-2 (H. Musson), 4-10-0 ... A. Turnell (10-1) 1
Light Snacks ... M. O'Halloran (5-1) 2
Corrib Lad ... Mr. T. Thomson Jones (12-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 77p; places, 15p, 24p, 43p. Dual F: £9.07. CSF: £1.40. D. Grissell, at Heathfield. 3½l, 10l. Winabit 15-8 fav (4th). 30 ran.

JACKPOT: £10,561.15 to 50p stake. PLACEPOT: £154.95. Pool of £13,276.88 carried forward to Market Rasen today.

Carlisle programme

12.45 HAYTON CHASE (Handicap: £802: 2m)
3 03-0000 Polars Smartie (D), R. Goldie, 10-11-3 ... R. Lamb
4 33204p Only Money, G. Richards, 10-11-2 ... R. Berry
6 21-3210 Durham Lad (D), T. Fairhurst, 8-10-10 ... C. Fairhurst
8 pp-0p00 Border Brig (CD), R. Brewis, 10-10-5 ... C. Pimlott
9 031-104 Old Head (D), J. Dodds, 9-10-0 ... Mr P. Craggs
10 32-0400 Roman King (D), F. Walton, 10-10-0 ... S. Charlton
11 3-43004 Dr Guilleline (CD), W. Fairgrieve, 6-10-0 ... W. Riddell 7
5-2 Durham Lad, 3-1 Old Head, 100-30 Polars Smartie, 7-1 Dr Guilleline, 9-1 Only Money, 10-1 Border Brig, 14-1 Roman King.

1.15 BRAMPTON HURDLE (*Handicap: £547: 2m 330yd*)
2 14/020-1 Red Mills, M. Dickinson, 8-12-4 ... C. Bell 5
7 3f3313 Thomson's Policy, G. Lockerbie, 7-11-3 ... S. Houlker
8 00/0000 Gala Lad, N. Bycroft, 7-11-0 ... A. Stringer 5
10 0u000-0 Steel Flight, M. Cousins, 8-10-10 ... J. Harren 5
12 4211-00 Nodana, T. Craig, 5-10-5 ... —
13 11004-2 Precious Petra, W. Haigh, 6-10-5 ... T. G. Davies
15 10-0000 Letligo (B), P. Felgate, 5-10-5 ... P. Pritchard 5
16 000000 Running Deep, W. Fairgrieve, 8-10-5 ... W. Riddell 5
18 000000 What-A-Prince, R. Jeffrey, 8-10-5 ... A. McGlynn 5
11-4 Red Mills, 3-1 Thomson's Policy, 9-2 Precious Petra, 13-2 Nodana, 7-1 Letligo, 9-1 Steel Flight, 16-1 others.

1.45 LUCIUS CHASE (Handicap: £1,452: 3m)
1 110p/0f Brawny Scot, G. Richards, 11-11-10 ... R. Barry
3 11-0000 Tangles Brother, T. Craig, 9-11-7 ... R. Lamb
5 p0-p410 Skiddaw View (CD), J. Dixon, 14-10-13 ... M. Barnes
8 01212p Another Captain (D), A. Scott, 9-10-8 ... C. Pimlott
10 3-122f1 Master Brutus, Miss C. Mason, 9-10-0 ... R. Earnshaw 4
11 342340 General Bruno (D), F. Gibbon, 11-10-0 ... Mr D. Metcalfe 4
2-1 Master Brutus, 3-1 Another Captain, 9-2 Brawny Scot, 6-1 Skiddaw View, 8-1 Tangles Brother, 10-1 General Bruno.

2.15 NAWORTH HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £470: 2m 330yd)
1 f00102 Ocean Cruise, J. Mason, 6-11-12 ... S. Charlton
2 0-00400 Beaming Jack, I. Jordon, 8-11-2 ... L. Allen
5 00/0003- Liberty Bodice, D. Dick, 6-11-2 ... A. Stringer 7
6 0p-0000 Lime House (B), J. Shadwick, 8-11-2 ... Mr S. Love 7
8 f00-00 Mizzenhead, M. W. Easterby, 6-11-2 ... P. Tuck
9 00-0000 Sandicliffe, V. Thompson, 6-11-2 ... Mr J. Walton
10 p000- Sole Investment, T. Craig, 7-11-2 ... C. Pimlott
11 0/00 Tarropeko, D. McCain, 7-11-2 ... W. Beardwood 7
12 304020 Twiflight, B. Wilkinson, 6-11-2 ... D. Atkins
13 00 Don't Wait, W. A. Stephenson, 5-11-0 ... R. Lamb
14 Gold Camp, K. Oliver, 5-11-0 ... T. O'Connell 4
15 3 Hope of Oak, J. Charlton, 5-11-0 ... Mr D. Kinsella
17 2-0 Rejuvenator, T. Barron, 5-11-0 ... Mr D. Metcalfe 4
18 00 Silent Reactor, G. Fairbairn, 5-11-0 ... R. Barry
19 0340 Tally Boy, R. Johnson, 5-11-0 ... R. Earnshaw 4
20 p Trucker, W. Fairgrieve, 5-11-0 ... D. Nolan
3-1 Ocean Cruise, 4-1 Hope of Oak, 5-1 Mizzenhead, 13-2 Twiflight, 8-1 Don't Wait, 10-1 Gold Camp, 12-1 Rejuvenator, 14-1 Tally Boy, 16-1 others.

2.45 WALTON CHASE (Novices: £966: 2m)
1 221pf0 Captain Parkhill, B. McLean, 8-11-7 ... S. Charlton
3 0-0002p Amazon Ruler, R. Jeffrey, 8-11-0 ... Mrs G. Rees 4
4 00f0f4 Automaton, W. A. Stephenson, 7-11-0 ... R. Lamb
5 313-004 Bitter End, D. McCain, 9-11-0 ... W. Beardwood 7
6 0p000-0 Charlie's Choice, F. Watson, 8-11-0 ... Mr F. Watson
7 0-000p4 Conker Ville, J. Charlton, 6-11-0 ... Mr D. Kinsella
9 0p0-0fp Gulf Run, G. Fairbairn, 7-11-0 ... D. Nolan
10 fp Gun Point, Denys Smith, 6-11-0 ... A. Stringer 7
11 30-0300 Handycuff, A. Scott, 9-11-0 ... D. Goulding
13 00-3004 Meidrrue, L. Griffiths, 10-11-0 ... [illegible]
15 3-0004p Morsidor, J. Thompson, 9-11-0 ... Mr C. Sample 4
16 0-000 Mullenan, T. Barron, 6-11-0 ... C. Pimlott
17 3-0202u Percipient (C), G. Richards, 7-11-0 ... R. Barry
18 f000/p- Rannerdale, D. Macdonald, 7-11-0 ... J. L. Goulding 4
13-8 Percipient, 11-4 Handycuff, 4-1 Bitter End, 6-1 Automaton, 10-1 Amazon Ruler, 12-1 Captain Parkhill, 16-1 others.

3.15 NAWORTH HURDLE (Div II: Novices: £487: 2m 330yd)
1 0/0pp0-0 Black Ray, E. Owen Jun, 8-11-12 ... N. Balmer
4 000 Gadabout, E. Owen Jun, 7-11-2 ... R. Wilding 4
5 f32300 High Hills (B), T. Craig, 7-11-2 ... J. Mooney 4
6 000230 King Black, W. A. Stephenson, 7-11-2 ... R. Lamb
10 0 Avon Melody, D. Macdonald, 5-11-0 ... J. L. Goulding 4
11 02-0f2f Bustedaway, G. Richards, 5-11-0 ... N. Doughty
13 000 Green Monolek, B. Wilkinson, 5-11-0 ... D. Atkins
14 34-0033 His Reverence, Denys Smith, 5-11-0 ... A. Stringer 7
17 00 Posskeen (B), B. McLean, 5-11-0 ... S. Charlton
19 000 Sir Marcus, W. Reed, 5-11-0 ... Mr T. Reed 7
21 0 Dorothy Kate, S. Norton, 4-10-0 ... P. Tuck
23 f4030 Powder Horn (F), W. Elsey, 4-10-0 ... A. Flint
24 00 Tara Coon, J. Hurst, 4-10-0 ... P. Mangan
9-4 Bustedaway, 3-1 His Reverence, 4-1 High Hills, 7-1 Powder Horn, 10-1 *King Black, 12-1 Dorothy Kate, 14-1 Avon Melody, 16-1 others.*

Carlisle selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Durham Lad. 1.15 Red Mills. 1.45 Master Brutus. 2.15 Ocean Cruise. 2.45 Handycuff. 3.15 His Reverence.

Market Rasen selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
1.0 Roander. 1.30 Show Of Hands. 2.0 Spin Again. 2.30 Bryan Boru. 3.0 Arctic Tribune. 3.30 Kenlis.

How the American approach to the Middle East will change under the new administration

Mr Reagan's goodies and baddies

The Reagan style is to be tough, determined, even aggressive, and Dr Kissinger's present function is to give an impression of purpose . . .

As Mr Ronald Reagan's inauguration draws closer, Arab and Israeli leaders are asking themselves what policy the new President is likely to pursue in the Middle East. Top of the new administration's list of problems are Iran, the Gulf War and Afghanistan. But the Arab-Israeli dispute remains in the centre of the stage, both for the Americans and (judging by the Arab and Israeli press) for those directly involved.

Before the presidential election, the conventional wisdom in Arab capitals—and for that matter in Jerusalem—was that if Mr Carter won he would crack down hard on the Israelis to get Camp David moving again. Camp David was one of the few foreign policy achievements the President could point to, and he was said to be impatient with the obduracy of the Begin Government over the sticky issue of Palestinian autonomy. The recent Begin Cabinet decision—under United States pressure—not to back a private bill formally annexing the Golan Heights is seen as an example of the kind of influence Washington can bring to bear if it chooses to.

The question is whether Mr Reagan will choose to. His views—in so far as he is known to have any on the subject—are pro-Israeli. He tends to see things in terms of the little guy (Israel) against the big bullies (the Arabs) or in biblical terms, David against Goliath. On an emotional level Mr Reagan admires the courage, hardiness and self-sufficiency of the Israelis and regards the Arabs as devious and inefficient.

Even if this picture is only partially accurate, it would seem to augur for a Reagan policy sympathetic to the Israeli point of view. Judging from remarks made by Dr Henry Kissinger on his current Middle East tour, Israel and Egypt are to be the cornerstone of the new administration's strategic picture of the region. Dr Kissinger has no official role, but his views will carry great weight where the Middle East is concerned. He has repeatedly said during his tour that the United States should adopt a "higher profile" in the region by increasing its land and naval strength. The Reagan style is to be tough, determined, even aggressive, and Dr Kissinger's present function is to give an impression of purpose while the Reagan team works out what this will mean in practice.

It may mean—according to the nominated National Security Adviser, Mr Richard Allen—the United States taking over two Israeli air bases in Sinai (Eitam and Etzion) before they come under Egyptian control in 1982, although President Sadat would be less than enthusiastic. In any case increasing the United States military presence in the region could merely provoke the Soviet Union into stepping up its forces in response. Any president has to take into account the constraints on American policy.


Dr Kissinger, forecasting a "higher United States profile" . . .

Political stability in the Middle East goes hand in hand with the need for guaranteed oil supplies. It is clearly in the American interest to cultivate friendship with a range of Arab states, and to maintain arms supplies to countries such as Saudi Arabia, especially after the loss of Iran as a bastion of United States influence in the Gulf.

A further complication is that although the Reagan administration is committed to making Camp David work, there is no obvious way forward at the moment. The option most favoured is one which brings Jordan into the peace process.

The sharp divisions in the Arab world over the Gulf War have made this a more likely development than previously by creating a Jordanian-Iraqi alliance with powerful resources and a desire to make history. Mr Reagan has described Jordan as "the key to a Middle East settlement", which suggests that he approves of King Husain's rumoured plan for a transitional Jordanian-Israeli federation on the West Bank leading to Palestinian self-determination.

The main stumbling block is the Palestine Liberation Organization. No Israeli government—not even a Labour one, should Mr Begin lose this year's general election—can deal openly with the PLO. It may be that the "initiative" of the European powers, begun at the EEC Venice summit last June, will eventually provide a formula for the inclusion of the PLO in peace talks on terms acceptable to the United States.

On the other hand, if Dr Kissinger's attack in Jerusalem on European "interference with American efforts" is anything to go by, the Americans under Mr Reagan are likely to be just as suspicious of European "initiatives" as they have been under Mr Carter. Mr Reagan's Secretary of State, Mr Alexander Haig (assuming he survives his forthcoming grilling by the Senate) is a man whose views on the Middle East are close to those of the President-elect. Mr Haig told the Zionist Organization of America in 1979 that the United States must never recognize or negotiate with the PLO "as long as it advocates views incompatible with the peace process".

Mr Reagan—more bluntly—described the PLO during the election campaign as "a bunch of thugs clever enough to get the word liberation into their name" who had gained fame (or notoriety) by "murdering children". In part this was campaign rhetoric aimed at the Jewish vote. But it was also heartfelt, and not at all untypical or unrepresentative of the style many Americans want and expect from their new leader.

Richard Owen

Can Lord Carrington win on all fronts in '81?

How delightful to meet Lord Carrington!
(Everyone wants to know him)
With his features of aristo cut,
And his hopes so high
And his jokes so spry
And his conversation, so nicely
Restricted to What Precisely
And If and Perhaps and But.
(with apologies to T. S. Eliot)

If there is one senior member of the Government from whom things seemed to go right in 1980 and for whom the new year brings prospect of continuing success it is the Foreign Secretary. It is something of a paradox, because as any television viewer can hardly fail to be aware, the world became a much worse place last year, and there is little or no sign of it becoming better this year.

But the point about foreign policy is that it thrives on adversity. Lord Carrington himself would not put it quite that way. One of the problems of being Foreign Secretary these days is that there is so little time to think. Everything happens so fast that the Foreign Office's energies are mainly directed to reacting to events—the invasion of Afghanistan, the Iran-Iraq war, the threat to Poland.

Lord Carrington has had his successes, the most notable, of course, being the constitutional settlement and ceasefire which led to elections in Zimbabwe. It was fortunate indeed that this triumph (as it turned out) came at the start of his tenure at the Foreign Office, for it has certainly set the imprint on British diplomacy of getting results.

At a time when the art of conducting foreign policy lies to a large extent in making British influence felt without the means—military or economic—to back it, in other words running diplomacy on a shoestring, the settlement in Zimbabwe has ensured Britain is taken seriously.

It was, all the same, a great relief to the good lord, as Mr Mugabe used sarcastically to refer to him, in the days before guerrilla hostility so suddenly blossomed into comradely friendship, to turn away from southern Africa, and look at the wider world.

In the past year Lord Carrington went to Turkey, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and India (January), Bonn, Romania, Malaysia, Singapore (February, March), Portugal, Salisbury (April), Washington, Vienna, Venice (EEC) and Ankara (Nato) (May, June), Brazil, Venezuela, Barbados, Mexico, Sweden, Finland, Saudi Arabia (July, August), and so on through the rest of the year, plus some 20 EEC meetings abroad.

The other principal achievement of the past year, besides Zimbabwe's independence, was sorting out Britain's contribution to the EEC budget. This most troublesome and politically sensitive question occupied far too big a slice of the Foreign Secretary's time. Now that it is out of the way, there is a good chance, for the first time, of playing a constructive role in the Community (sounds of hollow laughter off stage in Paris and Bonn).

In reality, this is a prime objective of domestic policy in 1981. Unless the EEC is seen by the British public as a really worthwhile and beneficial part of British life, opinion will never come round to supporting it. Lord Carrington wants to "get results". As Britain is in the chair in the second half of the year, there is a chance of giving a lead. The trouble is that however much good is done in the EEC, in the kind of unspectacular, day-to-day cooperation which is what the economic community is all about, it is a "no-win" situation. Along comes the farm price review—and either the farmers are angry or the consumers are up in arms, or both.

Probably the overriding objective of the new year, however, is the wider question of repairing transatlantic relations. The Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary have an early opportunity of meeting President Reagan in Washington at the end of February as the first European leaders to go there after he takes office.

The great thing about the new administration, so officials in Whitehall believe, is that Britain and all the other allies, will be dealing with a President who knows where he stands. It is a point likely to be appreciated in Moscow, too.

The alliance faces two obvious challenges. One, that events in Afghanistan and the Gulf have shown that whatever the treaty may say, Nato's interests go far beyond its geographical limits. And two, managing the cost and effectiveness of defence with an American administration committed to higher spending.

On the Middle East, Lord Carrington is certainly following his own line in propounding so strongly the European "initiative" to draw the Palestine Liberation Organization into the peace process. Whether the Europeans will get anywhere, and if so whether the PLO leadership will turn from guerrilla tactics (like Mr Mugabe) to statesmanship, are questions for the future.

For the time being it may be noted that Lord Carrington has badly upset the Israelis. And it rather looks as if he is taking virtually the opposite approach from his tactics over Rhodesia, which were based on the principle, as he saw it, of making absolutely sure that he kept the confidence of the people he wanted to budge. Some earnest talking will be needed when Mr Shimon Peres comes to London.

Overall, Lord Carrington likes to take a practical approach to foreign policy. For instance, on the residual colonial problems of the Falkland Islands, Belize and Gibraltar, he has put in hand practical proposals which may perhaps solve them in measurable time. Possibly the emphasis on the practical leads to errors of judgment, too. Popular support for the Brandt report and help to the Third World in general seems to have been underestimated. When commercial contracts and human rights pull in different directions, as in countries like Chile, the resulting compromise leaves a sense of unease.

There has not been much criticism on foreign affairs, a situation which may change with the arrival of the aggressive Mr Healey as Opposition spokesman. One of the consequences of being in the upper house is that the Foreign Secretary perforce leaves the cut and thrust of parliamentary debate to his junior ministers, while the deferential questioning he faces in Select Committees would, most of it, hardly trouble a 10-year-old.

Nineteen-eighty-one looks like being another very difficult year, in which Lord Carrington's energies will be fully stretched. He is an activist, he enjoys the job, his sense of humour is always close to the surface. No wonder everybody wants to meet him, as he jets around the globe.

David Spanier
Diplomatic Correspondent

The article "A new light on the Nativity" (December 24) stated that Jews could not go to school in prewar Poland. That is incorrect.

Bernard Levin

How could I have doubted Hoffmann?

Where *The Tales of Hoffmann* is concerned, I have a bizarre psychological problem; I am under the extraordinary misapprehension that I don't like it, though in fact I do. Well, I should count myself a great booby if I didn't; nevertheless, I almost invariably approach it with reluctance, convinced that I am bored by it, yet the moment the music starts I realize that I think it is one of the least boring operas in the repertoire, and indeed that I always have thought as much. Only the fact that I saw it in Salzburg in August drove this curious myth from my mind while I was on my way to the new Covent Garden production; there had not been time for the earlier performance to fade from the memory, and for the first time since I saw it for the first time I was eager to get to my seat. Perhaps I have unwittingly achieved that most desirable aesthetic Nirvana, the ability so to forget a masterpiece that every performance of it has the effect of a first meeting. But if so, why only *Hoffmann*?

Well, never mind; I may be odd, but I am not so odd that I fail to see in *The Tales of Hoffmann* an extraordinary artistic accident from which sprang a rightly treasured work. The combination of Hoffmann and Offenbach is strange enough; the haunted Bohemian, who drank himself to death at the age of 46, represented Romanticism at its most intense (for all that he was born in the year of the Declaration of Independence and the *Wealth of Nations*), yet provided the stories which enabled the Second Empire's greatest composer of operettas to finish his career in the year of *The Brothers Karamazov* by writing a masterpiece that transcended his limitations and compelled history to take him seriously at last. It was as if Beethoven had turned *The Good Soldier Schweik* into an opera with a libretto by Ibsen.

Let me not to the marriage of true minds admit impediment; if I did admit it, though, there would be an even bigger impediment than the sheer improbability of the genesis of *Hoffmann*. Offenbach died before he had completed the vocal score, let alone the orchestration, though nobody knows exactly what he had and had not done, much less what he intended. Every version extant is corrupt in countless ways, and some malignant fate, probably conjured into being by the tormented shade of Hoffmann himself, has seen to it that most of the early evidence was destroyed by fire or drowned deep in a quagmire of copyright. No two productions use the same music all through, nor can any two producers agree on the ideal order of the scenes; for a century, opera-houses all over the world have been running through the permutations, and have nowhere near exhausted them yet.

But the moment the overture begins, I stop thinking how unlikely it is that Offenbach intended it to sound like that, I cease to care what cuts will have been made in what follows, or what normally unperformed matter will have been inserted on this occasion, I no longer even wonder whether we shall have Giuletta before Antonia or vice versa; I am swept at once into the heart of the most perfect dream in all music, surrendering to its intoxication, accepting it on its own extravagant and impossible terms, falling — no, eagerly throwing myself — under the most potent spell in all opera.

I have seen some exceptionally fine *Hoffmanns* in my time, but 1980 was assuredly my Hoffmannic *annus mirabilis*. After the Salzburg production by Jean-Pierre Ponnelle, which I think one of the most imaginative and beautiful operatic *mises-en-scène* of my time, I could not see how John Schlesinger's Covent Garden version could be anything but a disappointment, and so it would have been if Mr Schlesinger had tried to achieve the same effect as Ponnelle. But of course he didn't: why should he? His production, though less spectacular, was more interesting and coherent; a dark, almost bitter, reading that could fairly be described as more Hoffmann than Offenbach, whereas Ponnelle's fragile fairy-tale was decidedly the other way round. The double experience within a few months was a forceful reminder of the inexhaustibility of works like this; neither Ponnelle nor Schlesinger took any unseemly liberties with the opera, and their versions were strikingly different, yet no one could deny that everything both directors had found in the opera was certainly there before they set to work on it.

But what made the comparison of these two memorable versions so much more exciting than the usual study of similarities and differences among productions was that the Hoffmann in both of them was Placido Domingo, the well-known golfer. (If you saw that television programme, in which he was soundly thrashed from the first hole to the eighteenth by the Divine Songbird—Kiri is as skilled a performer with the No 5 iron as she is with the epiglottis, though she was modest enough to admit that she couldn't have done it without her caddie—and came to the conclusion that he ought to stick to singing, you should have seen the shots that were edited out. I tell you, there were times when the sound engineer had to turn his recording machine off completely, because he was being deafened by the noise of the members of Wentworth Golf Club shooting themselves at the sight of what Placido was doing to their precious course: it was not so much golfing as opencast mining.)

I know such statements are meaningless, but I cannot help thinking that it is true: surely he is the greatest lyric tenor now living. Even Pavarotti seems to me, for all the caressing beauty of his voice, to lack the drama that Domingo's adds, and there is a firmness of the line running through it, like a steel cable encased in soft insulation, that gives it a quality I have rarely heard since Patzak (a most notable Hoffmann in his day, incidentally — which reminds me that it is high time Domingo sang Florestan).

It's a killer of a part; the golf-scene was shot on the morning after the first night of *Hoffmann*, and Placido looked exhausted, as well he might. But when I saw him as he came off the stage last week, he was still afire from the music and looked as though he could go straight back on, after nothing but a couple of glasses of champagne, and sing it all again. As far as performers are concerned, *The Tales of Hoffmann* has one serious drawback; the *diminuendo* of the last scene means that the audience's mood is inevitably somewhat hushed at the final curtain-fall. But the spell had not broken, and the flowers rained down on him from the gods as he took his calls. Somehow I think these two productions, with those two performances, may have exorcised my weird quirk for ever, and I shall from now on hasten eagerly to *The Tales of Hoffmann* with a heart as light as it always is when I emerge.

Luciana Serra and Placido Domingo in the Covent Garden production of The Tales of Hoffmann.

LONDON DIARY

Low profile Leon in the firing line

One of the less expected cards which emerged at the top of the pile in Mrs Thatcher's frontbench reshuffle was Leon Brittan, whose parliamentary career to date has been chiefly marked by a talent for keeping his head down and avoiding any of those gaffes which make for a certain notoriety outside the House.

Now Chief Secretary to the Treasury Brittan, jet propelled from the comparative obscurity of a junior appointment in the Home Office, finds himself in charge of Government spending plans, with a special responsibility for the civil estimates.

A personal friend of his new boss, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Brittan heard of his promotion on Monday night while celebrating his two-week-old marriage with a party in the Chancellor's official residence at 11 Downing Street.

After serving the usual apprenticeship in trying to wrest North Kensington from Labour, Brittan was elected by Cleveland and Whitby in 1974 and was brought on to the front bench by Mrs Thatcher two years later. He made a parliamentary name for himself in the long wrangles over devolution when he represented the Opposition on a complex issue which by no means united the party.

Ironically one of his early alliances in the House was with the now-deposed Norman St John-Stevas. They jointly wrote a guide on how to prevent schools going comprehensive and also got together on advising local authorities who were tardy in producing plans to go comprehensive.

The two have something else in common. Both were presidents of the Cambridge Union, St John-Stevas in 1950 and Brittan a decade later. Brittan, now 41, is by profession a barrister; he was called to the bar in 1962 and made a QC in 1978.

Quite a meteoric rise for a youngish lad, which must show that he is not wet behind the ears, nor anywhere else. If he needs any advice in his new post he can always call on his brother Samuel Brittan, the distinguished economic commentator of *The Financial Times*, who for years has been one of the most dedicated proponents of monetarism in print.

Burning issue

A useful new service for the dead is about to be introduced by the Cremation Society of Great Britain, a body best described as the consumers' watchdog for that particular means of disposing of the mortal coil once it has been shuffled off. The society is to open a register of last requests, in which members can lodge precise details of what they want done with their earthly remains.

On payment of £10, any of the society's 8,000 members will be able to join the register and have their final instructions kept in a safe place by the society at its Maidstone headquarters. All they need do is leave a note for the next of kin saying: "Ring the Cremation Society now for full details". The £10 will be refunded to the deceased's estate after departure.

Kenneth Prevette, the society's general secretary, told me: "Anyone who has ever acted as an executor, and has been forced to take instant decisions without really knowing the deceased's wishes, will appreciate the value of such a register."

The launching of the service might be an appropriate moment for the society to have another crack at having a blue plaque erected on the house where it was founded in 1874. Sir Henry Thompson, Queen Victoria's surgeon, established it in a house in Wimpole Street with the help of Sir John Tennial, Sir John Millais, Anthony Trollope and Sir T. Spencer Wills.

A regulation GLC plaque was made for the centenary in 1974, but the then occupants of the house refused to allow its erection. Being doctors, they did not feel it an appropriate ornament to hang at the door of their consulting rooms.

That the business of cremation needs a pressure group at all is proved by recent events at Mortlake, in the London borough of Richmond. Following complaints from funeral directors and mourners that its productivity was too high, the Crematorium Board has agreed to slow down cremations to 30-minute intervals instead of the previous 20. Customers had been complaining of being hustled out to make way for the next service.

Elysian fields

Now for news of the more traditional transport to the hereafter. The grazing of sheep to keep country graveyards tidy at no cost to the church has been advocated by a leading ecclesiastical lawyer in an article in a diocesan newsletter.

George Newsom, QC, Chancellor of the dioceses of Bath and Wells, St Albans and London, thinks grazing probably fell out of favour because the kerbs around graves created difficulties. But kerbs are now being discouraged by many church councils to make grass cutting easier. In Bath and Wells, to which his article is addressed, applications to clear existing kerbs are being encouraged, says Newsom. He should know; he is the man who has to give permission for any alteration to graves.

In his home parish at Bishop Cannings, Devizes, Newsom says that sheep have been allowed to graze in the churchyard for four summers with great success. Graves were protected from the sheep by temporary wooden frames and the yard was grazed in sections, designated by flexible electrified netting.

The farmer had free grazing, and in return the graveyard grass flourished and the general appearance improved. "The time has come seriously to consider the reintroduction of sheep", says Newsom.



Dazed

Which, I and a number of my readers would like to know, is the first day of the week? Leafing through a crop of 1981 diaries I am somewhat perplexed to find that in most cases the week begins, not on Sunday, traditionally and biblically the first day of the week as celebrated by Christians in commemoration of the Resurrection, but on Monday.

Starting the week on what they regard as its second day has irritated such organizations as the Lord's Day Observance Society, which has often complained to publishers that their diaries are inaccurate; indeed some die-hards would even regard them as blasphemous.

The fault appears to lie with Mammon. Most diaries now follow the business timetable with its Monday start. "We are really conforming to the popular conception of the week," I was told by Mrs Kay Barr, senior editor at Collins, a firm whose foundations lie in printing Bibles in Glasgow. Since last century Collins diaries have generally started the week on Monday except for a period between 1960 and 1973 when, after complaints from religious bodies, they opted for Sunday.

But that proved unpopular and they reverted to Monday with the moral support of the British Standards Institution which in 1971 ruled that Monday was the start of the commercial week. Charles Letts, the other big diary publisher, told me they too have had threats from religious groups, but their policy is to start the week whenever the customer wants; they have both Sunday and Monday diaries.

Collins attempted to placate the opposition by producing a diary called *Sunday Start*. They have also taken some quiet satisfaction from the discovery that the Church of Scotland's current diary begins its weeks on a Monday. After all, God started creating the world on a Monday, and so would MacAlpines if they'd been on the job.

The music critic of the Eastern Daily Press had only a few minor complaints in an otherwise glowing tribute to Sheringham and Cromer Choral Society's Christmas performance of Handel's Messiah: *"Due to illness, basses and tenors were thin, and it made a difference to their projection that they were not raised on the customary staging—lack of balance here sometimes made the soprano line sound a trifle aggressive." Sounds as though they were so ill they could hardly stand.*

Standing orders

Since his widely applauded decision three months ago to list 12 notable twentieth century buildings as of historic or architectural interest, Michael Heseltine, the Environment Secretary, has been sitting on a much larger inventory of suggested additions.

I have now learned that a new batch is likely to be announced at the end of this month, and I understand that the candidates include three famous London hotels, the Dorchester, the Savoy and Claridges; some equally well known emporia like Barkers, Derry and Toms, Fortnum and Mason, and Heals; the Thamesside head offices of ICI and Unilever; Guildford Cathedral, Golders Green Crematorium and, wait for it, the Shredded Wheat factory in Welwyn Garden City, which millions of travellers have goggled at over the years through the windows of passing trains.

While on this subject, I must commend the admirable conservation group, Save Britain's Heritage, for having produced a complete catalogue of all Grade I listed buildings in Britain, something which the Government ought to do but never has. (*The Best Buildings in Britain*, Save Britain's Heritage, 3 Park Square West, London NW1. £5.50).

I can hardly resist pointing out that no fewer than 18 columns are devoted to Edinburgh, as against a mere 10 for the whole of London and a miserly two for Bath.

Graduates of London University who are contesting the nomination of Princess Anne as their new Chancellor might care to recall a report in this very space 10 years ago. The Princess was asked by a BBC interviewer why she did not go to university. "I think it's a very much over-rated pastime", she replied. The Palace disapproved of the observation, and it was excised from the broadcast version.

Alan Hamilton

TIMES PAST THE TIMES
New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

A POOR DAY FOR AUTHORS

One of the most difficult tasks for any Prime Minister in a Cabinet reshuffle is to choose which ministers to drop. This can be a particularly delicate decision because quite often those most easily spared from the Cabinet would present the greatest threat if left to nurse their grievances on the backbenches. Mrs Thatcher would probably have liked to have got rid of quite a few of her Cabinet colleagues with whom she is not in tune, but she has contented herself with the departure of Mr Norman St John-Stevas and Mr Angus Maude, thus executing at one stroke fifty per cent of the Cabinet's contribution to literature.

The dropping of Mr Maude is no surprise. It is justified on grounds both of age and of impact. Mr St John-Stevas presents a different case. He may not have carried quite the weight that the Leader of the House should, either with the Prime Minister personally or with the Cabinet collectively. His principal difficulties have occurred when he has been forced to present proposals to the House against his better judgment. But he leaves behind a notable record of achievement both in that office and as a sympathetic and imaginative Minister for the Arts.

As Leader of the House he was responsible for piloting through Parliament last session an especially, indeed an excessively, heavy programme of legislation. But his term of office deserves to be remembered in particular for the new system of select committees in the Commons. The Conservatives were committed before they came to power to do something in this field. But there was no enthusiasm among most Cabinet members for any substantive move in this direction once they had taken office. Yet Mr St John-Stevas managed not only to have the new committees set up but also subsequently to take steps to enlarge their role. The reform has not been taken as far as it should, but it is to Mr St John-Stevas's credit that it has been taken as far as it has. His departure is a loss to the Cabinet.

There is at least a question mark over each of the consequential changes that follows from the removal of these two ministers. Mr Francis Pym takes over Mr St John-Stevas's role as Leader of the House and Mr Maude's as the minister responsible for government information and propaganda. He is well fitted for each of these tasks, but nobody should combine the two.

Some twenty years ago Mr Iain Macleod found how difficult it was to operate both as Leader of the House and as party chairman. The Leader of the House is not only responsible for steering through the Government's legislative programme; he also has to be especially sensitive to the interests of the Commons as a whole. He therefore needs to be one of the least partisan of ministers in terms of personal style. The chairman of the party, by contrast, has to be a spirited partisan. One person can hardly be both at the same time, and Mr Pym will find it equally difficult to be both Leader of the House and the Government's cheer leader.

Mr John Nott, who takes Mr Pym's place as Secretary of State for Defence, will bring to this office a strong sense of the need for economy. Mrs Thatcher may find this congenial after Mr Pym's vigorous resistance to slashing the department's budget. But an administration with Mrs Thatcher's foreign policy cannot have defence on a shoestring if it is not to appear inconsistent, or even hypocritical.

It would be reasonable for Mr Nott to reexamine the Government's commitment to Trident because it would be extremely damaging to Britain's total defence effort for the country's conventional forces to be run down in order to pay for so expensive a nuclear capability. But a sweeping attack on defence expenditure would not be in the national interest. Mr Nott is not experienced in foreign or defence policy and it would be most unfortunate both for Britain's own defence operations and for the country's standing in Nato if he were to insist on draconian economies without adequate study of the subject.

Mr Nott's place at the Department of Trade will be taken by Mr John Biffen, whose independence of mind makes him a valuable member of the Cabinet but who is difficult to place in the right post. There are some doubts as to whether his talents are best suited to running a major department. That will now be tested over the coming months.

His replacement as Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Mr Leon Brittan, is a minister of considerable potential whose entry to the Cabinet is well deserved. His brother is the distinguished economist, Mr Samuel Brittan. As Chief Secretary he may display tougher debating skills and a less sympathetic ear to the reasoning of the spending ministers than Mr Biffen did. Yet both the Treasury ministers in the Cabinet will now be lawyers—three, if one stretches a point, and includes the Prime Minister herself—and experience suggests that politicians with a legal background are not at their best in managing the economy. It is difficult to think like a political economist if you have been trained to think like a lawyer.

Altogether, then, there must be doubts as to whether the Cabinet as a whole has been strengthened by these changes, however much respect one may have for some of the ministers involved. Below Cabinet level, though, Mrs Thatcher has taken the opportunity to bring some promising members into the Government, which is not the least of the responsibilities of a Prime Minister.

THE RIGHT TO FAIR TRIAL

The press and television has little to be proud of in its treatment of the arrest and subsequent charge for murder of Mr Sutcliffe. Rarely in modern times can the media in general have acted with such disregard for the law and the fundamental tenets of British justice. In 1949 the editor of the *Daily Mirror* was committed to prison for three months and the newspaper fined £10,000 for saying that the police had caught the person responsible for the notorious acid-bath murders. Some articles within the last two days have gone nearly as far.

The police are partly at fault. It was unnecessary for them to have held a press conference at all. It was irresponsible for them to have done so in the way they did. They announced that inquiries into the Ripper murders were being immediately scaled down; that they were "absolutely delighted" about developments; they praised the two young policemen who had carried out the arrest, and those officers then gave press interviews in which they professed their own satisfaction. The police did not quite go as far as saying that they had caught the Ripper. They did not need to. It is understandable that the police, who have been much criticized over the past few years for their apparent lack of progress in solving the Ripper murders, should want to publicize what they regarded as a success. Their enthusiasm unhappily exceeded their sense of duty to the administration of justice.

Even more seriously, perhaps, members of the police must have told representatives of the media details of evidence which would almost certainly form part of the prosecution case. There is no other source from which some of the information published in some newspapers could have come. Such disclosures clearly add to the potential prejudice of a fair trial. The police should now inquire into how certain facts came into the hands of the media, and take action against any policeman found to have been providing the prejudicial details for publication, or any non-senior policemen who authorized it.

Police conduct does not, however, exonerate the media. It has been argued that in the period between the police press conference and the appearance of the accused in court the following afternoon, the law did not clearly spell out the risk of contempt to which the media might become subject. The existing test is that contempt starts to run from the time when a charge is imminent, and it is true that in many circumstances that moment is difficult to define. In this case, however, the police made it clear that a suspect was shortly to be charged. The press could not have been in much doubt about imminence. Nevertheless one newspaper at least published a photograph of the accused, when it must have known that there was a strong possibility that identification would be in issue at the trial

The contempts continued even when the excuse that the law was unclear could no longer be argued. The statutory restrictions on reporting the proceedings at the magistrates' court were breached, not technically or marginally, but substantially and deliberately. On Monday evening's television and in many of yesterday's newspapers, there appeared extensive interviews with prostitutes, including the particular lady who claimed to have been in the company of the accused when he was apprehended, members of the accused's family, his neighbours, his employers and work-mates. The overwhelming effect of the coverage of most papers, and of the television news programmes, was to enhance the assumption, already implied by the police, that the man charged was guilty.

Much of the information contained in the contemptuous articles was interesting to the public. But it was not in the public interest to publish it. There are some circumstances in which a newspaper might justifiably believe that the benefits to society of publishing articles which would or might be in contempt of court outweighed the public interest in the defendants being entitled to a fair trial. The thalidomide case was perhaps an example. But no such issues arise in the Sutcliffe case. Public curiosity cannot be an excuse for harming an individual's right to have the presumption of innocence applied to him, and to his right to a fair trial. Indeed, there is now a danger that the prejudice which might have arisen by media coverage could form part of the defence case.

A Contempt Bill is at present making its way through Parliament. It abolishes the imminence test and substitutes the moment of arrest, or the issue of a warrant of arrest, as the time from which the risk of contempt starts to run. Some critics would have preferred the later moment of charge to be the relevant time. What the coverage of the past three days has demonstrated is that it does not matter to many organs of the media what the law of contempt says. They will break it anyway if the case is spectacular enough and engenders sufficient curiosity on the part of their viewers or readers. Yet it is precisely in that sort of case—where a heinous crime is alleged—that a defendant most requires the protection of the law. These decisions are not unconsidered. Newspaper editors are not children; newspapers have lawyers; who can doubt that many newspapers and television producers had carefully weighed up the possibility of *prosecution and decided to go ahead with a known contempt?*

MR REAGAN GOES TO MEXICO

It was significant that even before his inauguration as President Mr Reagan should make a point of meeting President López Portillo of Mexico. As a Californian, Mr Reagan is more aware than most Americans of the proximity of Mexico; and before the election he had made a broad proposal, not at all well received in Mexico, for a North American common market including the United States, Canada and Mexico. But more than that, Monday's meeting in Ciudad Juárez was indicative of the increasing attention being paid in the United States to their southern neighbour, and to the small Central American states beyond.

The interest in Mexico is due to the large discoveries of oil and gas that have been made in recent years, making Mexico one of the world's main oil exporters and giving it greater confidence in international affairs. More than half of these oil exports go to the United States, which obviously has every interest in making the most of such a convenient source of supply. The attention being paid to Central America stems from the realization that that area, so long regarded as part of the American backyard, is in turmoil, with a recent revolution in Nicaragua, a virtual civil war in El Salvador, and constant political killings in Guatemala. The Americans would dearly like Mexican help in containing the upheavals, and avoiding Cuban intervention.

Things are seen differently in Mexico, however. Mexican perceptions start from the principle that the main threat to the region comes from the United States. They remain bitterly aware that they lost a large part of their own territory to the Americans in the last century, and though American interests are strongly entrenched in Mexico the Mexicans are very sensitive to anything which seems like an attempt at encroachment, economic or political. They are acutely aware that the Americans have their eyes on Mexican oil, but feel that at last they have a real bargaining card in their dealings with Washington. In exchange they want better treatment in the various border issues between the two countries, particularly that of the illegal Mexican immigrants to the United States.

As for Central America, the Mexicans are as worried as anyone at the prospect of a tide of revolution; it could, after all, affect Mexico itself, which has great disparities of wealth but where there is tight control over dissent. But the Mexican approach is to recognize that change is coming and to keep on good terms with the revolutionaries, as they have always done with Cuba and are doing now with Nicaragua. They are opposed to further American intervention both on ideological grounds, based on their own experience, and on practical grounds, in the belief that it would only exacerbate the situation—and ultimately bring about the sort of revolution it was designed to stop. It is a sensible approach, and far more sensible than the simplicities uttered at times by Mr Reagan. If it deters him from ill-considered action in Central America, that alone will have made his trip to Ciudad Juárez worth while.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

First principle of justice

From Lord Rawlinson of Ewell, QC

Sir, Once upon a time there was an old British principle that a man was *presumed innocent until proven* guilty. And once upon a time it was believed that the graver the accusation the greater the need to remember the principle. I am glad that you, Sir, at any rate, remain loyal to such old-fashioned ideas.

Yours faithfully,
RAWLINSON,
12 King's Bench Walk,
Temple, EC4.
January 6.

Police press passes

From Mr Peter Neivens

Sir, Mr Ecclestone (January 6) is being less than frank in his letter about police press passes.

The Metropolitan Police are anxious to be as helpful as possible to the press but in operational situations it is often impossible to allow unrestricted access to everyone.

In 1972, all Fleet Street editors attended a meeting at New Scotland Yard when it was agreed that the press identification cards issued by the Metropolitan and City Police Forces would be made available on request from editors. There are presently something in the region of 3,000 cards held by London-based journalists.

There is absolutely no question of our passes being "licences" to practise the art of news gathering and the Commissioner fully accepts the important role of a free press in a democracy. That is why he operates an open door policy with the news media.

Metropolitan Police officers are required to acknowledge any other accredited press pass within the constraints of the police operation and the NUJ card would conform with these instructions.

Yours faithfully,
PETER C. NEIVENS, Deputy Assistant Commissioner,
Director of Information,
New Scotland Yard,
Broadway, SW1.
January 6.

Picasso's 'Guernica'

From Mr Douglas Cooper

Sir, I write as a member of the Real Patronato (Board of Trustees) of the Museo del Prado to express astonishment at the article by David Mitchell (December 11) on the future of the painting "Guernica" by Picasso.

Picasso never declared that this painting "belonged to the Spanish people", nor did he *stipulate* "that it should be housed in the Prado". His instruction to his heirs were *that it should be handed over to the Spanish Government* in office (since the original commission came from a democratically constituted Government) once Spain has again become a democracy.

When all of his heirs have signed the release of the painting from New York, where it is held in trust for a Spanish Government, it will be handed over. Most probably, this will occur in the first half of 1981, and the recipient will be the Government of Spain then in power. The picture will then be entrusted to the Museo del Prado for safekeeping and exhibition. The place *where it will hang has been selected* and agreed, the necessary technical and security precautions decided on. "Guernica" will go neither to Malaga, nor to Guernica, nor to Barcelona. Your correspondent's arguments are *fallacious* and unfounded.

Sincerely yours,
DOUGLAS COOPER,
Monte-Carlo Star, Appt 151,
15 Boulevard Louis II,
Monte-Carlo,
Monaco.

Dangerous council?

From Sir Ralph Richardson

Sir, The Arts Council has decided to cut off financial support to the National Youth Theatre of Great Britain. This would be a dangerous *thing to do; it would axe down a* valuable young tree in the orchard of our culture.

Only last year, when the company visited the United States, the *New Yorker* declared: "It presents the best kind of English acting still in the making." The company has been asked to return there this year.

Our theatre is valuable to us all; we must not damage it. The National Youth Theatre's founder and director, Michael Croft, is unique in our time. We must not cut off that head.

We must think. We have until Easter before we come to the dangerous corner when the £15,000 grant will be stopped.

Whence comes wiser council?

Yours faithfully,
RALPH RICHARDSON,
(President, National Youth Theatre of Great Britain),
1 Chester Terrace,
Regent's Park, NW1.

The value of music

From Mr Larry Westland

Sir, Since my letter (December 27), I have received a very reassuring letter from the Chief Education *Officer of Surrey County Council*. It informs me that at a recent meeting of the council members expressed the view that they did not wish to cease instrumental tuition and assistance to orchestras. Instead, they have asked that the possibility of achieving economies by increasing income and by restructuring the peripatetic music services should be explored.

The letter concludes with the reassurance that, although there will need to be economies, it is hoped that instrumental music tuition, perhaps in a modified form, and the *orchestras will be retained.*

We at the National Festival of Music for Youth applaud the Surrey County Council for its continued support for music education.

Yours faithfully,
LARRY WESTLAND,
Festival Director,
National Festival of Music and Youth,
23a King's Road, SW3.
January 5.

What is happening in Afghanistan?

From Professor Louis Dupree

Sir, In the past weeks a lot of twaddle (and some significant non-twaddle) has been published in this and other newspapers concerning the war in Afghanistan. May I be permitted to seek out the middle ground on several of the issues—based on 30 years' experience in the area?

The lack of unity between the various guerrilla factions, particularly those centred in Peshawar, Pakistan, dismays many observers. Unity among the diverse Afghan ethnic groups (or even *within* the groups, however) has never been the normal cultural pattern. In addition, the views of the six major religious leaders in Peshawar range from the ultra-conservative, fundamentalist ideals of Engineer Gulbuddin Hekmatyar to the moderate, secular-oriented philosophy of Sayyid Ahmad Gailani, a member of the important Naquib religious family. The others (Sebratullah *Mojadidi, Maulvi Mohammad Yunus* Khalis, Professor Burhanuddin Rabani, Maulvi Mohammad Nabi Mohammadi) fall somewhere in between. And these are not the only groups in Peshawar. At one time more than 30 existed!

Currently, four major struggles are taking place in and around Afghanistan:

1 The generalized, relatively uncoordinated attempts of the *mujahideen* (freedom fighters) to overthrow the puppet regime of Babrak Karmal and drive the Soviets out of their country.

2 The internal struggle for power between the two major factions of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (*Parcham*, The Banner, now in power; *Khalq*, The Masses, party of the deceased Nur Mohammad Taraki and Hafizullah Amin).

3 The infighting for headlines, followers and Arab money by the religious leaders in Peshawar.

4 The gradual unification of regionally orientated ethnolinguistic groups inside Afghanistan.

No 4 is the most important and crucial pattern in the evolution of of a national liberation movement.

This does not minimize the importance of the various religious leaders and their followers in Peshawar (particularly the moderate Gailani), but simply tries to put the matter in proper perspective, at at least from my point of view.

A year after their invasion of Afghanistan the Russians find themselves involved in an expensive stalemate. In my opinion, the Soviets originally planned a Dominican Republic-type operation: Come in, zap the government in power, replace it with a puppet, and then leave. The Russians miscalculated, for the Afghans have *never peacefully accepted subjugation* and have always resisted outsiders.

So the Russians failed to crush the *mujahideen*. Now the Soviet tactics involve two interlocking processes: the *rubbleization* of the countryside and *migratory genocide*. The much vaunted Mi-24 armoured helicopter gunships roam up valleys with impunity, turning villages into *mud-brick rubble* with bombs, rockets and cannonfire. The object appears to be to drive Afghans out of their country into Pakistan and Iran, not to kill them.

But the fact that whole valleys have been denuded of people has worked against the Russians, and new patterns are emerging in the countryside. Guerrilla leaders, their villages destroyed, have settled their *families in Pakistan and returned* to their home areas to continue the fight. Because they no longer have to worry about the safety of their families or the sanctity of their villages, groups can coalesce into *larger units and range more widely* over expanding zones of responsibility. Regionally, even different ethnolinguistic groups have joined together to resist the Russians.

The invasion of Afghanistan is the *first Russian aggression* since World War II—on a piece of virgin, independent, non-aligned real estate. (Hungary and Czechoslovakia were considered by Nato to be in the Soviet zone of influence.) The Afghan freedom fighters have made it abundantly clear that they do not want, nor do they need, foreign troops, mercenaries or otherwise. Probably, the only way to force the Russians *to the negotiating table*, however, is to make their aggression in Afghanistan expensive in blood and machines.

Therefore, I believe the time has come for the United States, the United Kingdom and other interested nations to supply the *mujahideen* with adequate weapons. The Afghans do not lack courage. They lack weapons. The Americans and others have the weapons, but do they have the courage?

Yours etc,
LOUIS DUPREE,
American Universities Field Staff,
The Wheelock House,
PO Box 150,
Hanover, New Hampshire.
December 18.

Handling the economy

From Mr Robert Taylor, MP for Croydon, North West (Conservative)

Sir, It is becoming fashionable at periodic intervals for some of my senior parliamentary colleagues to offer gratuitous advice to the Government through the medium of your columns. The latest such advice from Mr Kenneth Lewis *(December 31, 1980) does call for* a reply and I hope I may be permitted to use the same medium for such a purpose.

Mr Lewis advocates that the Government should spend on the capital *account to create employment and* business confidence and to cut back on what he terms administrative and revenue spending in order so to do. Without making any further suggestion of such savings he then criticizes the Government for the administrative and revenue savings which it is currently implementing! To attempt to deal with each of his five points of criticism is to presume much of you, Sir, so I shall endeavour to be brief.

1 Increased National Insurance charges are most certainly justified by the unemployment figures because how else can the cost of unemployment be met unless Mr Lewis advocates an alternative tax imposition? The increased charge is therefore what my colleague so quaintly refers to as a saving of "revenue spending".

2 The alternatives to transferring the £50m industrial training bill are for either the Government to continue to fund the amount by "revenue spending" or for the industrial training boards to be closed down. I favour the latter course, but as Mr Lewis supported the 1964 Act I suspect he would differ.

3 High energy charges are to save funding of the nationalized industries through "revenue spending"; which way does my colleague want it?

4 No government could have tackled the rating problem more vigorously than the current campaign. The administration involved in reducing rates during periods of part time working would be an added burden on all of us, either directly or through "revenue spending".

5 As a small employer myself I gladly accept the liability to pay the first eight weeks of sickness benefit as I realize this will save substantial amounts on administration and therefore "revenue spending".

No, Sir! The letters you have published from my colleagues recently do not reflect the way the Conservative Parliamentary Party enters 1981. We are resolved to see these difficulties through, knowing the continuing problems ahead, but convinced that an alternative route would be an abdication of the leadership which the United Kingdom has sought so long.

I am, Sir, your humble and obedient servant,
ROBERT TAYLOR,
Hinterland House,
Effingham Common, Surrey.
January 2.

Level of coal stocks

From Mr J. R. Cowan

Sir, The claim that there are stocks of coal on the ground to the value of £1m for every man employed in the industry was repeated by your Labour Editor in your issue of December 30.

Because of the recession we shall add about six million tonnes to undistributed stocks during the *present financial year. Even so,* their total value is equal to rather less than £2,500 per man.

Yours faithfully,
J. R. COWAN,
Industrial Relations Member,
National Coal Board,
Hobart House,
Grosvenor Place, SW1.

Keeping footpaths open

From Colonel P. T. van Straubenzee

Sir, It is most sad that Mr Arthur Gemmell, himself a member of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Committee, should in his letter of December 18 attempt, by reference to minor or untypical examples, to paint such a distorted picture of the committee's attitude towards users of public rights of way.

Since it took over responsibility for the management of rights of way in the Yorkshire Dales some five years ago, the record of the national park committee speaks for *itself and its various actions* have been very well received not only by landowners and farmers but also by the many thousands of people who use the extensive network of paths within the 680 square miles of this national park.

Mr Gemmell draws conclusions regarding the committee's attitude to path users on the basis of its consideration of only two of the 81 diversion/closure/creation proposals with which it has dealt. Since Mr Gemmell's letter, people whose knowledge of rights of way in the Dales and dedication to national park purposes is no less than his, have expressed their deep disquiet at his ill-chosen words and have commended the national park committee for what it has actually achieved in such a relatively short time.

It is significant that Mr Gemmell should choose not to draw your readers' attention, for example, to the 610 new signs erected in the past two years or to the 263 new stiles erected and to the 306 stiles or gates repaired or replaced. In 1980 alone 21 new bridges (some very large span) and culverts were *built, and 28 footbridges repaired;* some 95 miles of new waymarking completed and another 54 miles renewed.

That Mr Gemmell should ignore these achievements and fail to record the committee's expression of regret concerning the provisions of the Wildlife and Countryside Bill related to bulls on public paths perhaps tells more of his attitude than it does that of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Committee.

Yours faithfully,
P. T. van STRAUBENZEE,
Chairman, Yorkshire Dales National Park Committee,
Spennithorne House,
Leyburn,
North Yorkshire.
December 31.

Breakfast television

From Sir David Llewellyn

Sir, Lord Beswick (letter, December 31) is right to claim that many of us who look forward to watching breakfast television will be paid less than its performers—not to mention the technicians behind them. But to suggest that their good pay affords grounds for denying to millions the enjoyment of this modest extension of choice is to carry Puritanism too far.

For the old who wake up to blank screens; for those who do not get papers delivered early, if at all; *for the housebound and for others* deprived of work, breakfast TV should provide at least a diversion, at best a source of enlightenment and joy.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID LLEWELLYN,
The Glebe,
Yattendon,
Newbury,
Berkshire.
January 2.

Water cure for transport problem

From the Chairman of the British Waterways Board

Sir, I have a great respect for John Gagg's belief in waterways transport—I thought that the feeling was mutual. However his references in his letter (January 2) suggest that we who serve on the British Waterways Board are too sanguine about Government's approach to our commercial waterways.

Since 1968 I have battered my head against a wall of seeming indifference in Whitehall. Although, in some circles, the decision to allow us to improve the Sheffield and South Yorkshire Navigation (the first such improvement for 70 years) *may be considered as a sop to* dampen down the growing demands for a policy for our waterways, we don't see it that way.

My board see it as a "second innings" for the canals. We will be able to put up a decent score if we have the kind of support within the ministries as do the roads. The roads lobby is not a myth; all we ask (as would railways, I suspect) is for an equal commitment in the corridors of power.

John Gagg is right when he says that our European colleagues look on our attitude with incredulity. Nowhere else in Europe do they ignore the energy savings and the environment bonus produced by waterways transport. They press for meaningful statistics which we are unable, or unwilling, to produce; *they ask that competition between* transport modes *should* be equal, which we ignore.

I know that there will come a day when someone capable of moulding government policy will take up the waterway case. Till then we will keep trying!

FRANK PRICE,
British Waterways Board,
Melbury House,
Melbury Terrace, NW1.
January 2.

Land of Palestine

From Mrs N. Silkin

Sir, What a pity that you seem (leading article, December 23) to vitiate the compassionate significance of Robert Fisk's articles *on the Palestinians*, by implying that the latter are not unique and should accept their fate like other refugees.

But surely they are unique. Where else in the world did *the majority* of a country's population become dispossessed exiles? Where else did the United Nations (under American pressure) partition a country in defiance of the rights and wishes of its indigenous majority? Where else did such partition award nearly 60 per cent of the land to the minority, who then owned less than 10 per cent of that land?

Surely the world community owes *some late measure of justice to the* Palestinians, for whose fate it has largely been responsible.

Yours faithfully,
N. SILKIN,
22 Spring Gardens,
Dorking,
Surrey.
December 23.

Trees for energy

From Mr James Blewitt

Sir, I have just pollarded for the first time oak trees planted as acorns 15 years ago. By the time oil gives out I hope my house will be heated from the trees I have grown and am continuing to plant in those areas where the energy equation is beginning to turn against yearly cultivation.

This line of thought is now commonplace among farmers. I would, though, like to emphasize that oaks are easy to raise from acorns, easy to transplant, determined to grow, *quicker to achieve a noticeable size* than is generally thought (one 26-year-old tree is now 30ft high) and most rewarding in every way.

Yours sincerely,
JAMES BLEWITT,
Rotted Hall,
Colchester,
Essex.
January 5.

Pillars of society

From Mrs C. A. Crowe

Sir, Your Architectural Correspondent, Charles McKean, in his article, "*They have their exits and their entrances*" (December 29), refers only briefly to domestic doorways and prompts me to ask if he has noticed the alarming epidemic of white pillars which is now *sweeping the country*.

I personally have seen outbreaks in Yorkshire mining villages, Lakeland hamlets, Midlands suburbia, West Country seaports and the Welsh valleys. Nowhere seems to be immune. Moreover, pillars are not confined to detached residences and the semi, for even terraces display affected areas, albeit of the flush-fitting variety.

The first symptom of a fresh case is usually the sudden appearance of a new front door. This may be baronial in style and nail-studded, neo-Tudor with black hinges, *Georgian with fanlight*, mock-Gothic with stained glass, early-Odeon and chrome-embellished.

Within days, pillars will appear, sometimes in pairs, more often in *sets of four. In more extreme cases* they will spread along the entire frontage and encompass the car port and, in the severest attacks of all, they have been known to invade the patio itself.

What does it all mean? Could it be that the people of these islands in the face of adversity are symbolically propping up the fabric of their existence? Enlighten us, Mr McKean, so we may know just what is happening before the contagion is unstoppable and every street becomes a colonnade.

Yours faithfully,
C. A. CROWE,
Tanglewood,
Stoney Lane,
Tickhill,
Doncaster.
December 30.



COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM, NORFOLK
January 6: Today being the Feast of Epiphany, Holy Communion was celebrated in the Chapel Royal, St James's Palace, when the customary offerings of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh were made on behalf of The Queen by Lieutenant-Commander John Holdsworth, RN, and Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Julian Paget, Bt (Gentlemen Ushers to Her Majesty).

The Bishop of London (Dean of Her Majesty's Chapels Royal), assisted by the Reverend Canon Anthony Caesar (Sub-Dean of Her Majesty's Chapels Royal and Domestic Chaplain to The Queen) and the Reverend John Williams (Priest in Ordinary), officiated.

The Queen's Bodyguard of the Yeomen of the Guard was on duty in the Chapel.

By command of The Queen, the Lord Trefgarne (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London this afternoon upon the departure of The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon for Greece, and bade farewell to Her Royal Highness on behalf of Her Majesty.

Lady Abel Smith has succeeded the Hon Mary Morrison as Lady in Waiting to The Queen.

CLARENCE HOUSE
January 6: Mrs Patrick Campbell-Preston has succeeded Ruth, Lady Fermoy as Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

KENSINGTON PALACE
January 6: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon left Heathrow Airport, London, this afternoon in an aircraft of British Airways to visit Athens.

Her Royal Highness was received at the Airport by His Excellency M Eustace Lagocos (Ambassador of Greece), Sir Derek Dodson (representing the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), Sir Ross Stainton (Chairman, British Airways) and Mr Michael Maine (representing the Director, British Airports Authority).

Mrs Robin Benson and Major The Lord Napier and Ettrick were in attendance.

The Duke of Gloucester, patron of the Council for Education in World Citizenship, will visit the new offices and resource centre, at Cobham House, Blackfriars Lane, London, on January 12.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Conway Seymour will be held in the Grosvenor Chapel, South Audley Street, W1, at 11.30 on Wednesday, January 14.

Birthdays today

Vice-Admiral Sir John Collins, 82; Mr Gerald Durrell, 56; Sir Frederick Gibberd, 73; Sir James Harford, 82; Sir Maynard Jenour, 76; General Sir Gordon MacMillan of MacMillan, 84; Sir Alastair Pilkington, 61; Mr Arnold Ridley, 85; Colonel Sir Eric St Johnston, 70; Air Commodore the Hon Sir Peter Vanneck, 59.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A. G. Gordon and Miss J. C. Houldsworth
The engagement is announced between Alexander, son of Lord and Lady Alastair Gordon, of Quick's Green, Pangbourne, Berkshire, and Joanna, daughter of the late Major Ian Houldsworth and of Mrs Houldsworth, of Dallas Lodge, Forres, Moray.

Mr J. W. Vernon and Miss D. E. Howard
The engagement is announced between James, eldest son of Sir Nigel Vernon, Bt, and Lady Vernon, of Top-y-Fron Hall, Kelsterton, Clwyd, and Davinia, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Christopher David Howard, of Ryton Corner, Ryton, Shrewsbury.

Mr J. R. L. Berriman and Miss L. K. A. McSwiney
The engagement is announced between John Robert Lloyd, elder son of Mr D. Berriman, of Bayley's Hill, Kent, and of Mrs C. P. Murch, of Blackheath, SE13, and Lindsey Kathryn Ann, younger daughter of Mr B. A. McSwiney, of London, W8, and of Mrs D. M. McSwiney, of Brasted, Kent.

Mr C. A. A. Covell and Miss V. F. Hardman Lea
The engagement is announced between Charles, son of Mr and Mrs N. A. C. Covell, of Lytham, Lancashire, and Virginia, daughter of Dr and Mrs M. Hardman Lea, of Mellor, Lancashire.

Mr P. W. Lincoln and Miss E. J. Robins
The engagement is announced between Peter, eldest son of Mr and Mrs W. J. Lincoln, of Ashurst, Southampton, and Barbara, daughter of Mr and Mrs W. E. C. Robins, of Banstead, Surrey.

Mr J. M. Surtees and Miss L. Giddy
The engagement is announced between Jonathan Michael, younger son of Mr and Mrs Richard V. N. Surtees, of 23 Queen's Gate, S.W.7, and Cobham, Surrey, and *Louise, third daughter of Mr and* Mrs Edward N. Giddy, of Umlaas Road, Natal, South Africa.

Mr R. O. L. Wickham and Miss J. K. Brown
The engagement is announced between Robert, only son of the late Mr and Dr Wickham, of Sevenoaks, Kent, and Jennifer, only daughter of Mr and Mrs B. Brown, of Great Chesterford, Essex.

Mr D. H. Houldsworth and Miss S. J. Hogg
The engagement is announced between David Henry, eldest son of the late Major Ian Houldsworth and of Mrs Houldsworth, of Dallas Lodge, Forres, Moray, and Sarah Jane, elder daughter of Mr J. G. and the Hon Mrs Hogg, of Old Broad Oak, Brenchley, Kent.

Mr D. G. Aitken and Miss S. J. Lockey
The engagement is announced between Douglas George, elder son of Mr and Mrs G. Aitken, of Homefield, Old Buckenham, Norfolk, and Sarah Jane, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs C. B. Lockey, of The Limes, North Lopham, Norfolk.

Mr R. A. R. Bradfield and Miss S. J. H. Walker
The engagement is announced between Robert Andrew Richard, son of Dr and Mrs J. R. E. Bradfield, of Cambridge, and Sarah Jane Hope, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Walker, of Irstead, Norfolk.

Mr M. Dennis and Miss R. Ramsay
The engagement is announced between Mark, youngest son of the Rev W. M. and Mrs Dennis, of Glenellen, California, and Rona, daughter of Mr and Mrs D. W. Ramsay, of Stanley, Perthshire.

Marriages

Mr C. Elkins and Mrs B. M. Jemal
The marriage took place in Bermuda on December 19, 1980, between Mr Cyrus Elkins and Mrs Bridgette Mary Jemal. A luncheon was held afterwards at Government House.

Mr J. A. Hooper and Miss P. A. Locke
The marriage took place on Saturday, January 3, at the church of St John the Evangelist, Toft, Knutsford, of Mr Toby Hooper, son of Colonel and Mrs D. A. Hooper, and Miss Anna Locke, third daughter of Dr and Mrs G. B. Locke.

The Rev J. Kirkland officiated, assisted by Father Raphael Appleby, OSB.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by her nephew and niece, Cessian and Flora Scott. Mr James Pavry was best man.

A family luncheon was held at Legh Lodge and a reception will be held in London later this month.

Mr P. Snuggs and Miss A. M. Morton
The marriage took place quietly in the Queen's Chapel of the Savoy on Tuesday, December 23, 1980, between Mr Philip Snuggs and Miss Audrey Morton.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev W. W. Lucas, Vicar of St Michael and All Angels, Norton, diocese of Durham to be incumbent of Broseley with Benthall and priest-in-charge of Jackfield and Linley with Willey and Barrow, diocese of Hereford.

The Rev I. L. Marshall, head of religious studies at Southwell Minster School and honorary Vicar Choral of Southwell Minster, diocese of Southwell, to be Rector of All Hallows, Ordsall, Retford, same diocese.

The Rev A. J. Meakin, Rector of Whickham and Rural Dean of Gateshead West, diocese of Durham, to be also chaplain of Gibside Chapel, same diocese.

The Rev D. W. Moir, Vicar of St James, Sutton, Macclesfield, diocese of Chester, to be Vicar of St Peter, Prestbury, same diocese.

The Rev D. C. Nye, chaplain of Grenville College, Bideford, diocese of Exeter, to be Vicar of SS Philip and James, Cheltenham, diocese of Gloucester.

The Rev C. L. Owens, curate of St Mark, North End, Portsea, diocese of Portsmouth, to be team Vicar in the East Ham team ministry, diocese of Chelmsford.

The Rev D. A. Reed, curate of St Matthews, Exeter, diocese of Exeter, to be priest-in-charge of Martindale, Cumbria, diocese of Carlisle.

The Rev G. H. N. Smith, chaplain of Lancaster Moor Hospital, diocese of Blackburn, to be also honorary Canon of Blackburn Cathedral.

The Rev S. G. Sneed, area secretary for the Church Missionary Society in the diocese of Gloucester and Hereford, to be Vicar of Weobley with Sarnesfield and priest-in-charge of Norton Canon, Letton with Staunton, Byford and Mansel Gamage and Monnington on Wye, diocese of Hereford.

The Rev G. C. C. Spencer, Vicar of Bathampton, diocese of Bath and Wells, to be Rural Dean of Chippenham with special responsibility for Ditteridge, diocese of Bristol.

The Rev M. L. Sumner, curate of Basingstoke, diocese of Winchester, to be priest-in-charge of All Saints, Alton, same diocese.

The Rev C. G. Sykes, Rector of Ewhurst and Bodiam, diocese of Chichester, to be chaplain at the School of St Mary and St Ann, Abbots Bromley, diocese of Lichfield.

Prebendary R. J. Thursfield, retired in the diocese of Hereford, to be also Prebendary Emeritus of Hereford Cathedral.

The Rev C. F. Trevor, Vicar of Kirkby Malham, diocese of Bradford, to be also priest-in-charge of St Peter, Coniston Cold, same diocese.

Prebendary A. Webster-Smith, retired from pastoral care of Brampton Abbotts, diocese of Hereford, to be Prebendary Emeritus.

Prebendary P. H. Whittaker, Rector of St Mary's, Bridgnorth, diocese of Hereford, to be Vicar of Leighton Buzzard with Hockliffe, Eggington and Billington, diocese of St Albans.

The Rev D. G. Young, Curate of St Peter, Harborne, diocese of Birmingham, to be priest-in-charge of St Germain, Edgbaston, same diocese.

The Rev J. A. Younger, director of communications and chaplain at the Sarum and Wells Theological College, diocese of Salisbury, to be Vicar of All Saints with Saint John, Clifton, diocese of Bristol.

Retirements and resignations

The Rev B. O. Allen, Vicar of Topcliffe with Dalton and Dishforth, diocese of York, to retire on April 30.

The Rev A. J. Mill, team Vicar in the Clyst Valley team ministry, diocese of Exeter, to resign on March 31.

Canon W. T. Pinkney, Vicar of Alnwick with Edlingham and Bolton Chapel, and Rural Dean of Alnwick, diocese of Newcastle, to retire as Vicar and will retire as Rural Dean during 1981.

The Rev A. North, Vicar of St Osyth, diocese of Chelmsford, to retire on April 30.

The Rev A. N. Ring, Vicar of Kirkby Stephen, Cumbria, diocese of Carlisle, has retired.

Canon E. C. Vavasour-Jones, Rector of St Michael the Archangel-on-the-Mount-Without and Prebendary Canon of Bristol Cathedral, diocese of Bristol, to retire as Rector.

The Rev J. L. Wall, Vicar of the United Benefice of Hart with Elwick Hall, diocese of Durham, has resigned.

Canon P. N. Wanser, Vicar of St Edwin, Coniscliffe, diocese of Durham, to resign on February 28.

BBC agrees to broadcast dramas with same stage cast
National Theatre plays for Radio 3

By Kenneth Gosling

Sir Peter Hall is to direct the world première of Harold Pinter's new play, *Family Voices*, on Radio 3 on January 22. It will be the first in a series of drama productions made possible under an agreement between the *National Theatre*, of which Sir Peter is director, and BBC Radio Drama.

Dame Peggy Ashcroft heads the cast. The play is the first of six to be recorded and broadcast mainly on Radio 3 this year; as far as possible, the BBC will use the same cast each time as at the National Theatre.

Family Voices will be produced at the National as an early evening performance on February 13 and 17 and March 19 and 20.

Other plays expected to be included are *Amadeus*, by Peter Shaffer, *The Browning Version*, by Terence Rattigan, *Betrayal*, by Harold Pinter, *Watch on the Rhine*, by Lillian Hellman, and *Madras House*, by Harley Granville-Barker.

Details were announced yesterday by BBC radio when it introduced the new season which begins on January 17 and which includes several new series and serials, among them a 26-part *Lord of the Rings*. Radio drama also includes first plays by Joan Bakewell and Shelagh Delaney.

Relayed live opera broadcasts include Mozart's *Idomeneo* from Salzburg on January 29, and *Cosi Fan Tutte* on January 27 and *Un Ballo in Maschera* on February 3, from Covent Garden.

Eight documentary programmes on Radio 3, beginning on February 9 and written and presented by Michael Charlton, will examine Britain's missed opportunities in postwar Europe under the title, *The Price of Victory*.

Among the single broadcasts will be Princess Margaret's choice of *Desert Island Discs* on January 17 and the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, conducting a special Ash Wednesday phone-in on March 4.

Mr Aubrey Singer, managing director of BBC radio, said Radio 1 would have a "sad scoop", the interview with John Lennon recorded in New York by Andy Peebles last month shortly before Lennon was shot. The first of the five one-hour programmes based on the interview can be heard on January 18.

Mr Singer said no other broadcasting organization could match the range of programmes offered by the BBC; radio cost less than £2,000 an hour for all four networks and he hoped the new licence fee, due in 13 months, would enable it to keep going without cuts.



Lady Howe, wife of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Mrs Humphrey Atkins, wife of the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, at an NSPCC playgroup in Belfast yesterday.

Today's engagements

Exhibitions: Railway artists, Station Museum, Sunderland, 10 to 6; Homer Sykes, Corinium Museum, Cirencester, 10 to 5; microelectronics in the home, Design Centre, Haymarket, 9.30 to 5.30; Bolivian stamps, Stanley Gibbons, 399 Strand, 9.30 to 4.45; work by new craftsmen, British Crafts Centre, 43 Earlham Street, Covent Garden, 10 to 5.30.

Talks: "The Sutton Hoo ship burial", by Kenneth Whitehorn, 11.30, "Greek theatre", by Patsy Vanags, 1.15, both British Museum; "Costume in eighteenth century paintings", by Audrey Tyndall, National Gallery, 1; "Bacon", by Pat Turner, Tate Gallery, 1.

London Mime Festival, Cockpit Theatre, Marylebone, 8.

For children: "Buses, bikes and boats", Museum of Oxford, St Aldate's, Oxford, 2 to 4.

Lunchtime music: Holborne Consort, St Olave, 1.05; Richard Townend, organ, St Margaret Lothbury, 1.10; Michael Anderson, organ, St Bride's, 1.15; Martyn Dyke and pupils, piano, Holy Sepulchre, 1.15.

England wins at junior bridge for third time

By Our Bridge Correspondent

England won the junior home countries' international bridge series outright for the third year running. The matches took place at Perth at the weekend.

The England attack was led by G. T. Kirby and S. J. Lodge, veterans in such competitions who have gained several senior caps.

Under the new rules imposed last year of each country playing three short matches against each other, instead of one long match, the weaker teams have had a better chance. England's score of 82 out of a possible 90, the same as last year, represents an outstanding performance.

Placings were: England 88, Scotland 56, Wales 46, Northern Ireland 32. The England team was: A. P. Sowter (non-playing captain), G. T. Kirby and S. J. Lodge; T. Pike and R. Bentley; J.-Wyndham and M. H. Clarke.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:

Dr Peter E. Trier, aged 61, director of Philips Electronic and Associated Industries, to the chairman of the Defence Scientific Advisory Council, in succession to Sir Sam Edwards, FRS.

Dr Basil Greenhill, director of the National Maritime Museum, to be chairman of the National Directors' Conference, in succession to Mr Michael Levey.

Major-General N. St G. Gribbon, managing director of Sallingbury Ltd, to be president of the Canada United Kingdom Chamber of Commerce. **Mr Brian Burrows** to be secretary-general of the chamber.

Luncheon

Poulters' Company
The Duchess of Devonshire was the guest of the Poulters' Company at luncheon after she had received the honorary freedom of the company at the Christmas court held at Armourers and Brasiers Hall yesterday. The Master, Mr J. K. Melling, was in the chair.

Alburt stays in chess lead despite setback

From Harry Golombek
Chess Correspondent
Hastings

Lev Alburt, the former Soviet grandmaster, met with an astounding and most unexpected reverse in the ICI grandmaster tournament at Hastings yesterday, when on the way to winning a game against Brito in the eighth round, he overlooked the loss of his queen, and had to resign on the forty-second move.

He is still in the lead with six points, as his nearest rival, Andersson, only drew yesterday, but it is clear that there will be a close struggle for first prize in which he and Andersson and possibly four others, Liberzon, Ftacnik, Sunyé and Torre may participate.

Of the last four, Ftacnik and Liberzon adjourned with what seemed to be a certain drawn rook and pawn ending, while Sunyé and Torre adjourned in a position rather in favour of the latter.

In the other games, Peters and Chandler had a fairly quick draw, Littlewood and Popovic adjourned in a complicated position after a considerable time scramble, and *Bellin adopted too simple an* opening against Lein and was soon lost.

Scores at end of round eight: Alburt 6, Andersson 5½, Liberzon 4½ and one adj; Ftacnik, Sunye and Torre 4 and one adj; Lein 4 and one postponed; Brito 4, Speelman 5½, Mestel and Popovic 3 and one adj; Peters 3 and one postponed; Chandler 3, Littlewood and Pinter 2½ and one adj, Bellin 2½.

Results of round eight: Bellin 0, Lein 1, queen's pawn op, 32 moves; Littlewood adj v Popovic OP, Grunfeld def, 45; Mestel adj v Pinter, Réti op, 45; Sunyé adj v Torre, QGD Slav def, 44; Speelman ½, Andersson ½, Catalan system, 27; Brito 1, Alburt 0, Alekhine's def, 42; Ftacnik adj v Liberzon, Catalan system, 41; Peters ½, Chandler ½, Robatsch def 29.

Adj games results round seven: Pinter 0, Chandler 1; Lein 1, Littlewood 0; Ftacnik ½, Peters ½.

Science report

Medicine: Historical perspective

By the Staff of *Nature*

George Frederick Handel and Samuel Pepys both seem to have been inconvenienced by commonplace ailments that would be just as likely to afflict them today as two or three hundred years ago. A new look at the sparse evidence of their medical histories suggests that the composer had rheumatism rather than two strokes in his later years, and the young diarist experienced attacks of what is now known as irritable bowel.

Dr Milo Keynes, of Cambridge University, writing in *The Lancet*, points out that Handel must have made a remarkable recovery from the strokes he has been assumed to have sustained in 1737 and 1743. Although his right arm was said to have been put out of action in 1737, he seems to have been back at work, conducting and composing, within a very short time.

Contemporary correspondence indicates that again in 1743 he had a paralytic disorder affecting his head and speech. However, within five weeks he had started to compose the opera *Semele*, and apparently suffered no further deterioration until troubled by the cataracts that blinded him at the age of 66 in 1751.

It was Handel's first biographer, the Rev John Mainwaring, writing in 1760, who recorded the two strokes, establishing a medical precedent for most of his successors. Dr Keynes offers support to those who have subsequently doubted the veracity of the strokes, concluding that on the evidence of the symptoms they were more likely to have been recurrences of the muscular rheumatism for which Handel took the waters at Tunbridge Wells in 1735. He also visited Tunbridge Wells in 1737, and tried the waters at Aix la Chapelle then and again in 1743.

Almost a hundred years earlier, in the 1660s, Pepys was recording in his diary attacks of what he called "wind colic". That affliction has been assumed to have been renal colic resulting from the presence of kidney stones. But although he certainly had such an attack in 1665, and possibly another the next year, as well as various other recognizable aches and pains, his "wind colic" seems to have been something different.

Writing in the *British Medical Journal*, *Dr Charles Newman, of* the Royal College of Physicians, says that the true nature of the wind colic could be discerned only with the publication of the complete text of *The Diary of Samuel Pepys* four years ago.

Pepys apparently did not think he had renal colic, but thinking in the medical terms of the seventeenth century, he concluded that the cause of his trouble was "taking cold". That was done by, for example, getting his feet cold, putting his legs into water, or just being cold. The internal consequence of taking cold was the production of wind, which rose to whatever part of the body was uppermost. Before a cure could be effected, Pepys believed that the wind had to be discharged.

Dr Newman likens the attacks to the abdominal neurosis that used to be known as "mucous colitis" and has merged into the irritable bowel syndrome associated with anxiety and depression, and commoner in association with an energetic lifestyle.

Pepys's attacks seem to have coincided with the years when his domestic life and his professional affairs at the Navy Office were most difficult. By 1669, when he was 36, he was more settled and his diary records no further attacks.

There is insufficient evidence to assess a recent suggestion that Pepys's wind colic was due to chronic lead poisoning. But it seems unlikely that his symptoms *(and his wife's lack of symptoms)* were the result of consuming water that had passed through lead pipes. Dr Newman prefers the common diagnosis of neurosis; which he believes is nearer to the truth than the ingenious alternatives.

Sources: *Lancet*, December 20/27 (vol ii, p 1354), 1980; *British Medical Journal*, December 20/27 (vol 281, p 1716), 1980.

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Latest wills

Latest estates include (net, before tax paid):

Adams, Mr John, of Dorchester £129,655
Bennett, Mrs Daisy Elizabeth Maud, of Reigate Heath £688,159
Coghill, Professor Henry Kendall Aylmer, of Aylburton, Gloucestershire, Merton Professor of English Literature, Oxford University, 1957 to 1966 .. .. .. £94,250
Gay, Mr Timothy Thomas Stuart, of St Columb Major, Cornwall £151,525
Howarth, Margaret Hayhurst, of Preston, intestate .. £156,840
Paul, Mr Noel Wyatt, of Dorchester, farmer and landowner £378,568
Reiss, Mrs Ambrosine Marie, of Ascot, Ambrosine Phillpotts, the actress £74,201
Rymer, Mr Jack Sykes, of Brighouse, intestate £136,172
Servaes, Mr Hubert Coltart, of Liverpool, stockbroker .. £215,377
Silk, Mrs Dorothy Grace, of Isleworth £197,925
Smith, Mr George Harold, of Blidworth, Nottinghamshire £186,408
Waine, Miss Doris Emily, of Dorchester £165,628
Wright, the Rev John Milne, of Bournemouth £217,712

25 years ago

From The Times of Friday, Jan 6, 1956

Mistinguett dead

Mistinguett died yesterday at her brother's house on the outskirts of Paris. While spending Christmas with him she suffered a heart attack and pneumonia later developed. More people will regret the disappearance of Mistinguett from the scene than ever saw her. Superior in this even to film stars, whose appearance at least is known to thousands, she was a member of that little band of legendary figures which for some reason or other appeal to the imagination of the world although the world might be hard put to say what it is in them that is appealing. For Parisians, no doubt, Mistinguett will be mourned partly as a music hall performer whose remarkable vitality, frank vulgarity and sympathy with the popular part of her audience made her notable. Yet even Parisians will mourn her as something else, as the topic of innumerable anecdotes and the subject of, as it might be, an individual folklore. London, which did not see her on its own stage until 1947, when she was certainly over 70, beheld with fascinated attention the spectacle at last of a personage whose music-hall reputation became for our week-ending fathers one of the symbols of Parisian gaiety. Beneath an immense mushroom of feathers and somewhat precariously balanced on very high thin heels she sang in a voice that was still pleasantly firm a few songs that cynically, if a little conventionally, linked love with money.

University news

Oxford
Mr Ivor Richard, QC, member of the Commission of the EEC, has been elected to an honorary fellowship of Pembroke College.
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE: Webster memorial organ scholarship, S. M. Whatton, The King's School, Canterbury.

Cambridge
Professor N. J. Mackintosh, BA, DPhil (Oxon), professor of experimental psychology, Sussex University, has been elected to the professorship of experimental psychology from October 1.
M. T. Barlow, MA (Trinity), PhD (Wales), has been appointed university lecturer in pure mathematics and mathematical statistics from October 1.

Elections
DARWIN COLLEGE: Official fellows: C. Milstein, PhD, FRS, of MRC laboratory of molecular biology; D. P. Farrington, MA, PhD, university lecturer in institute of criminology.
KING'S COLLEGE: Senior research fellows: S. Donkin, MA (Oxon), PhD (Warwick), pure mathematics; P. Halstead, MA; Junior research fellowships in pure mathematics: C. T. Sparrow, MA; *one-year fellowship in association with research centre project on* shop-floor bargaining, work organization and labour productivity since 1870: D. P. Flaherty, PhD (New York Univ).

Award
Hamilton Prize for 1980: R. W. Herring, BA (Trin H), P. R. Rigg (Caius).

Edinburgh
Appointments
Senior lecturers: K. McN. Grigor, BSc, MB, ChB, MD, pathology; D. Chiswick, MB, ChB, MPhil, psychiatry.
Lecturers: G. B. Park, BSc, MB, ChB, anaesthetics; R. A. Jones, BVM&S, animal health; Mrs W. L. Stafford, BSc, PhD, biochemistry; J. Carmichael, BSc, MB, ChB, clinical oncology; W. R. Miller, BSc, PhD, clinical surgery; S. M. Black, BDS, conservative dentistry; P. B. Denyer, BSc and R. S. Ferguson, BSc, PhD, electrical engineering; A. Good, BSc, PhD, social anthropology; T. S. Brown, MA, PhD, history; G. C. Bell, LLB, legal practice; Miss P. C. A. Shepherd, MB, BCh, BAO, medicine, WGH; Mrs C. Raab, BSc, MSc, medical computing and statistics; C. N. Duncan, BSc, PhD, meteorology; Mrs E. F. James, BA, NDM and Miss J. F. Walker, BSc, MSc, nursing studies; R. Mitchell, BDS, MB, ChB, oral surgery; D. J. L. Mainney, BSc, MB, ChB and Mrs E. McGoogan, MB, ChB, pathology; R. R. Ribchester, BSc, PhD, physiology; P. Thomas, MB, ChB, psychiatry; G. L. Gretton, BA, LLB and J. M. Wright, BA, LLB, Scots law; C. D. Munro, BVM&S, PhD veterinary surgery.

Wales
Welsh National School of Medicine
Dr Ronald Marks, reader in dermatology in the department of medicine, has been awarded a personal chair within the department.

Correction

The final two paragraphs of the list of entrance awards at Cambridge University, published on Monday, should have appeared under the heading of Newnham College.

OBITUARY

PROFESSOR HAROLD C. UREY
Discoverer of heavy hydrogen

Professor Harold C. Urey, the American chemist who discovered the heavy isotope of hydrogen, died in La Jolla, California, on January 5. He was 87.

Urey was a brilliant physical chemist who had specialized in the separation of isotopes. His discovery of heavy hydrogen (deuterium) in 1931 brought him the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1934. He was also Director of the War Research Atomic Bomb Project during the Second World War.

Harold Clayton Urey was born in Walkerton, Indiana, on April 29, 1893. He was educated at the University of Montana where he graduated BS in zoology in 1917. When the United States entered the war in that year he went to Philadelphia to help in the manufacture of war materials. This experience convinced him that industrial chemistry was not his forte and directed him towards academic research.

After the war ended he returned to the University of Montana as an instructor in chemistry and from there went to the University of California where his interest in physical and mathematical chemistry developed under the influence of Gilbert N. Lewis. From California he gained his PhD. From 1923 to 1924 he underwent further valuable development with Niels Bohr at the Institute for Theoretical Physics at Copenhagen, returning to the United States at the end of that time to become associate in chemistry at Johns Hopkins University, a post he held until 1929. In 1929 he was appointed Associate Professor of Chemistry at Columbia University, becoming full Professor in 1934.

This was the period in which his major work on isotopes was done. From Aston's researches on isotopes, quantum theory and thermodynamics Urey calculated that it was possible to separate the hydrogen isotope of atomic weight 2 (common hydrogen has the atomic weight 1), physically. This he succeeded in doing in 1931 to produce the "heavy" isotope of hydrogen, called deuterium or, colloquially, heavy hydrogen. Urey announced this discovery in December, 1931.

This was recognized by the award to Urey of the Nobel Prize for Chemistry of 1934. Urey's work led to a greater interest in the separation of the isotopes of other elements. He led a distinguished school of workers over the years and in 1937 he separated a heavy isotope of nitrogen, nitrogen 15. (Common nitrogen is of atomic weight 14.)

When the War Research Atomic Bomb Project was instituted in 1940 Urey was appointed its director and in this appointment had a prominent role in the development of the scientific work which underlay the development and eventual production of the world's first nuclear bombs. In the meantime his opening of the way to the manufacture of heavy hydrogen had had an expected ramification of potential use to the enemy. The Norwegian hydroelectric plant at Rjukan had begun to produce deuterium and its oxide, heavy water, a project which came under German control during the war. Though the Germans were mistaken in thinking this the direct route to the construction of nuclear weapons, nevertheless the use of heavy water as a means for slowing down neutrons in atomic piles was felt to be so important that a commando raid was made on the plant to put this facility beyond the Germans' power.

After the war Urey went to the University of Chicago where he was Distinguished Service Professor of Chemistry from 1945 to 1952 and thereafter Martin A. Ryerson Distinguished Service Professor until 1958. Since that year he had been Emeritus Professor of Chemistry in the University of La Jolla, California.

Urey was a versatile scientist and his work continued in many fields, including the entropy of gases, the absorption of spectra and structure of molecules. He was also interested in the chemistry of the origins of the earth and in 1952 his book *The Planets* indicated how the principles of physical chemistry could be applied in this field of study. He continued to be fertile with ideas and in 1962 was one of the chief exponents of the novel idea that the moon had not been formed from the earth, as posited in traditional Darwinian theory, but had been formed independently.

Urey's work brought him many honours from his own country and others. From this country he received the Davy Medal of the Royal Society and Foreign Membership of that society. In America he received the National Science Medal, the Gold Medal RAS, the Chemical Pioneer Award of the American Institute of Chemists, and the NASA Exceptional Scientific Achievement Award, to name but a few honours.

Urey married, in 1926, Frieda Daum. They had one son and three daughters.

COMMANDER G. C. STEELE, VC

Commander Gordon Charles Steele, VC, RN (retired), Captain-Superintendent of the Thames Nautical College, HMS Worcester, off Greenhithe, from 1929 to 1957, who was awarded the Victoria Cross for conspicuous gallantry, skill and devotion to duty during the attack on Kronstadt Harbour in August, 1919, died on January 4 at the age of 88.

Born on November 1, 1892, at Exeter, Steele was the son of Captain H. W. Steele, RN. His mother was Selina May, daughter of the late Major-General Symonds, RMLI. After receiving his early education at Vale College, Ramsgate, he became a cadet in HMS Worcester, Nautical Training College. His early service at sea was in the ships of the P & O Steam Navigation Company. He obtained very early his master mariner's certificate, and in 1909 he received a commission in the Royal Naval Reserve. When the war broke out in 1914 he was serving in HMS Conqueror as acting sub-lieutenant, and in the following October was transferred to the submarine service, the ships in which he served being the D8 and the E22. It was his good fortune to be appointed to the first Q boat, or mystery ship, *commission, and for his part* in sinking an enemy submarine in August, 1915, he was mentioned in dispatches.

He was in charge of the concealed guns in the Q ship Baralong when his ship took by surprise the German submarine U27 which had attacked the steamer Nicosian. The U-boat was destroyed. As a reward for his gallantry he was transferred from the Royal Naval Reserve to the list of sub-lieutenants RN. Three months later he was promoted to lieutenant. In that rank he served in the Royal Oak at the Battle of Jutland, and later he was appointed to the Iron Duke. During the latter part of the war, Steele held independent commands. He was captain of HMS P63, a patrol boat, from 1917 to 1919, when he took over command of HMS Cornflower, a sloop. His great chance came, however, in August, 1919, when he was in command of a coastal motor boat during the raid on Kronstadt Harbour.

The deeds of conspicuous gallantry and skill which won for Steele the Victoria Cross were performed on August 18, 1919. Lieutenant Steele (as he then was) was second-in-command of HM Coastal Motor Boat No 88. In the course of the operations against the Bolsheviks it was necessary for the motor boat to enter Kronstadt Harbour. Soon after entering, the commanding officer, Lieutenant Dayrell-Reed, RN, was shot through the head, and in consequence the boat was thrown off her course. Immediately Steele became aware of what had happened he took the wheel and steadied the boat.

After lifting his commanding officer away from the steering wheel, he got his boat in a convenient position for launching a torpedo at the Bolshevik battleship Andrei Pervozanni. He fired at a range of one hundred yards, and had the satisfaction of seeing his torpedo find its mark. Not content with that, he turned his attention to the battleship Petropavlovsk which was overlapped by the Andrei Pervozanni, and was partly obscured by smoke which was coming from the stricken ship.

To get a clear view of the Petropavlovsk, he had an extremely difficult manoeuvre to perform, but the evolution was skilfully and successfully carried out, and the Petropavlovsk was torpedoed. It became imperative that Steele should make his way from the harbour as quickly as possible if he were to save his boat. He had only just room enough to turn in order to regain the entrance of the harbour, but he managed to do so with success. All this time his motor boat was drawing a heavy and concentrated fire from the line of forts. Nevertheless he passed close to the forts firing his machine guns all the way, and passing out of the harbour he saved his ship. The award to him of the Victoria Cross was notified in the *London Gazette* of November 11, 1919.

After that gallant exploit he returned to more peaceful duties, and in 1923, when in command of Patrol Boat No 31 at Portland, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant commander. He always had an aptitude for languages, and it was after this that he fulfilled an ambition by becoming a Naval Interpreter in Russian. In March, 1925, as a specialist in anti-submarine duties, he was selected for duty on the staff of the Rear-Admiral of Submarines at Gosport. His next appointment was to the new cruiser Cornwall in which he served as first lieutenant commander from 1927 to 1929 on the China station. His last appointment in the Navy was to HMS Egmont for duty at Malta. He served there for four months, when he was selected to be Captain-Superintendent of the Thames Nautical Training College, HMS Worcester, off Greenhithe, the ship in which he himself received his early training for the sea.

He published several books including *Electrical Knowledge for Ships' Officers*; *The Story of the Worcester*; *To Me, God is Real*; *About My Father's Business* and *In My Father's House*.

MR THOMAS LITTERICK

Mr Thomas Litterick, Labour MP for Birmingham, Selly Oak, from 1974 to 1979, who has died at the age of 51, was a stormy petrel whose uncompromising left-wing views, vehemently expressed, often brought him into sharp conflict with the party leadership. In June, 1975, he walked out of a party delegate meeting at Bedworth, Warwickshire, as the then Mr Harold Wilson was putting the case for the EEC, declaring that his leader was speaking like a Conservative. Defeated at the polls in 1979 he told the Labour conference at Brighton that Mr Callaghan had lost the election for Labour.

Litterick, a university lecturer, was born in May, 1929, and educated at Dundee School of Economics, Queen's College, Dundee, and Warwick University. He was chairman of Kenilworth Labour Party from 1969 to 1970 and Leamington Constituency Labour Party from 1970 to 1972. From 1970 to 1974 he served on Kenilworth UDC. He was a member of the Tribune Group and the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs.

Litterick was chairman of the All Party Parliamentary Committee for Freedom of Information. Presenting in 1976 his unsuccessful Freedom of Information and Privacy Bill he said it was intended to provide greater public access to official information and to safeguard the privacy of the individual from the potential powers the state holds over him by the collection and storage of personal records.

The publication in October, 1977, of extracts from an after-dinner speech in which Sir Richard Dobson, chairman of British Leyland, referred to "wogs" and criticized trade unions resulted in Litterick calling for the dismissal of Sir Richard, who subsequently resigned. Seven months later Litterick failed in an attempt to bring the British Leyland (Dismissal of Directors) Bill to give the employees of that company powers to dismiss the executive directors.

Litterick organized in July, 1978, a meeting at the House of Commons of the Law Centres' Working Group at which MPs were urged to support the idea of independent, community-controlled law centres and to help the group to secure funding from the Government.

DR FRANK HOWARTH

Dr Frank Howarth, the distinguished radiologist, died in Birmingham on New Year's Day. He was 64.

At Corpus Christi, Cambridge, and at the London Hospital he was an outstanding undergraduate and after obtaining his medical degree in 1941 he served as a medical specialist and officer in charge of medical division in the RAMC in Burma and Arakan. He had further clinical experience at the London Hospital before entering radiology. A long apprenticeship in this discipline was followed by his appointment as consultant radiologist to the United Birmingham Hospitals and lecturer in Radiological Anatomy in the University of Birmingham in 1954.

He pioneered the catheter technique in angiography in this country and made many important contributions to the radiological literature. His years of experience in clinical work before becoming a radiologist, his high intelligence and his superb judgment made him a master of his craft. Prominent radiologists all over the world owe much to the training he gave them. Few could rival his expertise and none could equal his courtesy, his kindness or his modesty.

MR FRANK NOBLE

Mr Frank Noble, MBE, the man who pioneered the Offa's Dyke long-distance footpath, has died at his home in Knighton, Powys, at the age of 54.

Mr Noble was a Yorkshireman who fell in love with the Welsh border country and its romantic past when he moved to teach at the secondary school at Knighton where he was history master. He believed in taking his pupils out into the field to study archaeological sites and other places of historic interest as much as in book work in the classroom.

He worked for several years to overcome strong opposition from farmers and landowners over the establishment of the 168-mile-long Offa's Dyke path, running from Chepstow to Prestatyn and there were several battles over rights of way.

But Noble saw his dream realized in 1971 when Lord Hunt officially opened the path at a ceremony at Knighton. Mr Noble was subsequently appointed MBE in recognition of his efforts to establish the footpath.

For several years he was the Workers Educational Association tutor for Herefordshire and Radnorshire and was later a counsellor and tutor for the Open University. Before his death, which resulted from multiple sclerosis, he saw the establishment of a Heritage Centre dealing with the rich history of the Welsh Borderlands.

Noble leaves a widow and married daughter.

MR AHMED TAIBI BENHIMA

Mr Ahmed Taibi Benhima, a former Foreign Minister of Morocco, died in Rabat on December 25. He was 53.

As a young man he was an Istiqlal Party militant, and after independence in 1956 he held numerous diplomatic posts including that of Permanent Representative at the United Nations. In 1964 he was appointed Foreign Minister and then Director of the Royal Cabinet in 1966.

After three years as Permanent Representative at the United Nations for the second time, he was again made Foreign Minister in 1972; and in 1974 he became Minister of State for Information.

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THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

هكذا من الأصل

Little cheer in the high street, page 15

■ **Stock markets**
FT Ind 476.6, down 5.3
FT Gilts 69.02, up 0.19

■ **Sterling**
$2.4255, up 140 points
Index 79.0, up 0.2

■ **Dollar**
Index 85.2, down 0.1
DM 1.9325, down 50 pts

■ **Gold**
$601.50, up $2

■ **Money**
3 mth sterling 14 7/16-14 5/16
3 mth Euro $ 16 9/16-16 7/16
6 mth Euro $ 15 9/16-15 7/16

IN BRIEF

Union backs BSC job losses and closures

British Steel Corporation last night secured the support of the National Union of Blastfurnacemen to the corporation's survival plan involving plant closures and further loss of jobs.

The NUB, with an estimated 6,000 members employed by the BSC, is the first union formally to sign an agreement supporting the main proposals of the plan drawn up by Mr Ian MacGregor, the corporation's chairman, and now with Sir Keith Joseph, the Industry Secretary.

Blastfurnacemen's leaders, in accepting the main proposals of the plan, have agreed to *defer a 7 per cent wage* increase offered to all BSC unions to June 28 this year.

Craft industry unions and white collar workers who are members of the Steel Industry Management Association are expected formally to accept the plan, and will have further talks with the BSC over the next 10 days.

Liquidation warning, page 14

Portals £9m issue

Portals Holdings, the banknote printer and engineer, in which the Bank of England has nearly 29 per cent stake is raising £8.75m after expenses through a £9m issue of convertible loan stock as rights to shareholders. The group wants to expand in the United States.

Financial Editor, page 15

Appeal dismissed

The Singaopre court of appeal has dismissed an appeal by Mr Richard Tarling against his conviction last year for violatoions of local company law in the Haw Par affair. Mr Tarling has already completed a six month jail sentence originally imposed.

Dumping alleged

European Commission officials have opened an anti-dumping inquiry into imports of textured polyester fabrics from the United States. The inquiry follows complaints from Community producers that American fabrics are selling at below cost.

Heading for a trade war? page 15

Massey meetings

Meetings between Massey-Ferguson's senior management and the company's worldwide bank creditors will resume in London over the next few days, with a joint meeting representing about 250 lenders scheduled to star on January 15.

Chinese bonds rise

Prices of Chinese bonds reacted sharply yesterday on the stock market, with dealers taking the view that for the first time there was a real possibility of bondholders being repaid. Buyers were attracted to the larger outstanding issues.

Financial Editor, page 15

Buyer for Bamfords

A buyer—not yet named—has been found to take over the 100-year-old farm machinery company Bamfords of Uttoxeter, Staffordshire, the liquidators say.

SDR rate movements

The $-SDR rate yesterday was 1.28628 while the £-SDR was 0.530315.

Hopes of slackening in monetary growth with rise of only 0.5 pc last month

By John Whitmore
Financial Correspondent

Monetary growth slackened appreciably last month, lifting official hopes that expansion *will show a marked slowdown* over the final part of the financial year.

Preliminary estimates by the Bank of England put the growth in sterling M3, the broadly defined money supply, at about 0.5 per cent during the December banking month.

But though the figures represent a welcome improvement on the 2.1 per cent jump in November, they still need to be treated with caution because December is a odd banking month, lasting for only three weeks.

By contrast the January banking month, covering the six weeks from December 11 to January 21, will probably provide a far more significant set of figures. Indeed, they could be the figures that will determine whether the Government feels it can afford to make a further cut in interest rates ahead of the spring Budget.

At the moment the renewed upward pressure on sterling as dollar interest rates start to fall *suggests that the Government* could afford a further cut in minimum lending rate on external considerations. But such factors alone are unlikely to prove decisive unless the present pressures on the exchange rate intensify further.

Although a 0.5 per cent rise in sterling M3 in December was better than financial markets had expected, there was some disappointment about the apparent composition of the monetary figures.

Whereas many analysts had been expecting to see another very low figure for the growth in bank lending to the private sector—bank lending to the private sector fell slightly in November—the London clearing banks yesterday suggested that they had seen an underlying rise of £400m in private sector lending in December.

This does not automatically mean that private sector credit demand is picking up again. More probably it may mean that earlier figures for sterling borrowing by the private sector slightly understated overall private sector credit demand because some companies may have chosen to borrow in dollars. Once dollar interest rates soared in the final months of last year, British borrowers may have switched back to sterling.

Not only would this explain the upturn in the banks' sterling lending to the private sector in December, but it would also fit in with the overall switching into sterling of bank balance sheets during the month—an offsetting contractionary movement in sterling M3 terms.

Contrary to market expectations, the public sector probably had no more than a neutral impact on domestic credit expansion in December. A further contractionary factor was another *large increase in non-resident* sterling deposits.

Although the slowdown in monetary growth will obviously be welcome news to the authorities, sterling M3 has grown by almost 20 per cent over the past 12 months and at an annual rate of about 22 per cent since February, the base date for the present 7-11 per cent target period.

Only if monetary growth between now and the end of the financial year was negligible would the authorities be able to put up a convincing case that the underlying growth rate in the 12 months to April was less than 15 per cent.

Financial Editor, page 15
Eligible Liabilities table, page 16

Wall St at highest for four years

By Frances Williams

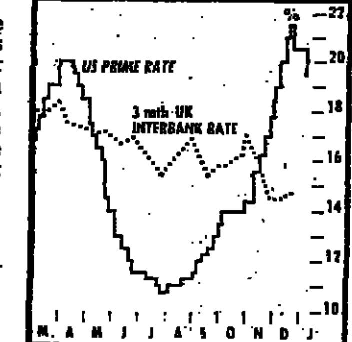
Wall Street closed above the 1,000 mark last night at its *four years. Falling interest* highest level for more than rates and heavy institutional demand for blue chips sent the Dow Jones industrial average 12.03 points higher to finish at 1004.69.

The downward movement in interest rates caused a further weakening of the dollar on the foreign exchange markets.

The Chemical Bank in New York cut its prime rate from 20.5 to 19.5 per cent, only an hour after Marine Midland, lowered its prime rate to 20 per cent. It joins Morgan Guaranty, which on Monday became the first major bank to cut its prime rate to 20 per cent. But most big banks have kept their rates at 20.5 per cent.

Sterling jumped sharply in early trading to a high of $2.4335 before slipping back to close at $2.4255, up 1.40 cents on the day and its highest level since early November.

The pound's trade-weighted



index opened at 79.3, up 0.5 on the previous day's close, but ended the day up 0.2 at 79.0

Sterling closed at a lower rate in New York, finishing at $2.4180/95 compared to the previous day's $2.4245/55, and the dollar ended the day slightly firmer against most currencies after recovering from its earlier lows.

Its movements largely followed the trend in Eurodollar deposit rates, and the currency rebounded in the afternoon as rates firmed slightly.

The foreign exchange markets continue to take the view, on balance, that United States interest rates have further to fall, and the latest prime rate cut prompted renewed dollar sales. But a number of analysts believe that rates could rise again in the near future, in the expectation that President-elect Reagan will wish to pursue tough anti-inflation policies.

The pound's high opening levels reflected an overnight decline in the dollar in Far Eastern and American markets.

It declined on profit-taking, partly in anticipation of the United Kingdom bank lending figures published in the afternoon, and fell further when these suggested a lower money supply increase in December than the market expected.

Sterling is expected to remain firm in the near future as end-month corporate tax payments and the issue of gilts removes liquidity from the system and keep interest rates up.

PAYE procedure changes

By Margaret Stone

The Inland Revenue is to simplify the procedures for employers operating the pay-as-you-earn system. The changes will take effect from tax year 1981-82

Instead of sending out annual coding notices for each employee, the Revenue will send out notices only where the tax code has changed during the year. Employers will otherwise continue to use the previous code.

Changes are also to be made to the arrangements for handling the tax affairs of new employees. Form P46, used when employees start a new job without a P45, will allow the employer to show whether the newcomer is a school leaver or is taking up an additional rather than principal job.

The rules relating to the issue of Form P60—the employee's certificate of pay and tax—are to be relaxed so that they can be issued before the end of the tax year. None of these changes will have any direct bearing on an individual's tax affairs.

In a separate statement the Inland Revenue announced yesterday that a draft order had been laid before both Houses of Parliament proposing to transfer tithe—ecclesiastical-rents—records from the Revenue's custody to the Public Records Office.

Borthwick auditors qualify accounts

By Michael Prest

The accounts of Thomas Borthwick, Britain's biggest meat company which last year lost £10.5m, have been qualified by its auditors, Deloitte Haskins and Sells.

The accountants say that Borthwick's annual statement is presented as though the company is a going concern on the basis that it negotiates adequate borrowings. They add that in their judgment the company should have made a provision of £1.5m against the possible clawback of deferred tax relief.

The directors take the view that they are unlikely to make the payment.

Although Borthwick reduced total borrowings last year by £11m, its liabilities in the form of bank loans and overdrafts rose by over £1m to £42.3m.

In his annual statement Dr Bill Bullen, the company's departing chairman, says that it is hoped to save a further £20m this year through stock reductions.

But Mr Richard Wheeler-Bennett, the deputy chairman who is to succeed Dr Bullen at the end of this month, said last night that the company was in urgent negotiations with a committee of banks led by Barclays. However, he declined to reveal the extent of Borthwick's financial requirements.

Part of the urgency arises from the need for working capital to finance operations in *New Zealand* and Australia where Borthwick has extensive interests. The meat season there is presently in full swing.

Mr Wheeler-Bennett said that Australian banks also had loans out to Borthwick, and that he and the company's finance director would be travelling to Australia and New Zealand soon.

Another aspect of Borthwick's difficulties is that under present financing arrangements over £10m in loans is due to be repaid within one to two years, with a further £18m due to be repaid in between two and five years.

Morgan Grenfell is acting for Borthwick in negotiations.

Mr Wheeler-Bennett said there was no fundamental disagreement with the auditors over the principle of the £1.5m clawback provision, made necessary by recent changes in the rules governing deferred tax relief. But the directors considered the changes "unfair and irrational" and had made representations to the Inland Revenue.

In his annual statement, Dr Bullen said that retail business outlook in Britain and the rest of Europe was good. On average one shop a month would be opened in Britain or France. But he said that the high price of beef meant that margins on exports to the United States would remain small.

Mail service set to miss cash target

By Bill Johnstone

The postal side of the Post Office looks set to miss its financial targets this year and Mr Ron Dearing, the chairman of Posts and Giro has been in talks with union general secretaries and advisers from the Post Office board in an attempt to find economies.

The Posts target was set at two per cent on a turnover now expected to be about £2,000m this year. This was to have raised a large amount of the £40m needed for the proposed automation programme.

The achievement of the target is now in *question and the increases in postal letter* rates expected to come into effect on January 26 will not be enough to offset the shortfall.

It is widely held that these increases will be too low to meet the corporations's ambitious programme. The programme has achieved a high level of acceptance over the past five years, but at present a first-class rate of 15p and a second class rate of *12p would be needed to fund it*.

The original Post Office revenue-raising idea last year was for rises of 3p on first class mail, and 2p on second class letters.



Mr Ron Dearing: in talks to find economies.

The rates eventually discussed by the Post Office were 2p on both classes, but after negotiation with interested parties, it was agreed to increase the first class rate by 2p to 14p but raise the second class rate by only 1½p to 11½p.

This concession could prove to be a serious error of judgment as nearly 60 per cent of the 10,000 million items handled each year travel second class.

The Post Office may have precipitated the problems itself by promising to freeze tariffs until the end of last year, thereby denying itself the possibility of increasing its income earlier. Users of the service were therefore expecting a fairly large increase early in 1981.

The Post Office Users National Council warned its members before Christmas that unless very great savings were made, there could be a second rise in the new year.

The report issued by the council also proposed an annual evaluation of the effect of productivity agreements on performance and quality of service to customers.

The prospects are not altogether bleak. The Post Office had a very successful Christmas employing 10,000 fewer casual workers in the London area alone, while handling virtually the same amount of mail as last year.

But if large scale economics cannot be made despite an increase in tariffs, it is possible that the much-discussed mechanization programme will be stopped again.

Fisons to close four works and cut 1,100 jobs in fertilizer division

By John Huxley

Fisons is to restructure its fertilizer business, with the loss of about 1,100 jobs—more than a quarter of the division's workforce.

Four small works are to be closed—at Barking, Essex, where 110 will be made redundant; Plymouth, 120; Boston, Lincolnshire, 95, and Widnes, Cheshire, 120. Phosphoric acid production at its Avonmouth plant is to end with a loss of 100 jobs.

A further 300 workers will be paid off at Felixstowe, where the division's administrative services are being reorganized, and at Levington, near Ipswich, where research and development facilities are located. The balance of redundancies will occur mainly at Immingham, Humberside, where the division operates the largest fertilizer complex in Europe.

Fisons, which employs 11,000 in the United Kingdom, said yesterday that it intended to put the changes into effect from April. Consultations have begun with the unions involved.

But Mr David Warburton, national industrial officer of the General and Municipal Workers Union, said that there had been no consultation about the closures. '*How can you talk to* a company which abuses every agreement we have? I shall be advising our executive to give positive support to our members in defence of jobs."

In the half year ending in June 1980, fertilizer sales were worth £98m, against £92m in the corresponding period of 1979. Profits almost doubled from £713,000 to £1.4m. However, the company says that the comparison is misleading, because 1979 figures were depressed by adverse factors including a lorry drivers' strike and a dock strike affecting Immingham. In 1978 the fertilizers business produced profits of £6.1m.

Sales during the past year have been generally poor, it is understood. Yesterday, the company blamed high interest rates for the unwillingness of farmers to buy in fertilizers out of season. Stocks too have remained high.

Fison's main competitors in the fertilizers market are the Anglo-Dutch owned UKF, and ICI, from which it buys a sizable proportion of the ammonia used in production. ICI has a highly advantageous long-term contract with British Gas for the feedstock which it uses in ammonia production.

Kellogg jobs go: Kellogg, the breakfast cereal company, is to make 300 redundant at its Trafford Park, Manchester factory by the middle of April because of a £5.5m investment programme planned for the next two years.

New equipment would mean fewer jobs, but it was hoped that the redundancies would be achieved by early retirement and voluntary resignation.

But the company gave a warning that technological changes and the introduction of new plants, together with improved methods of operation, would mean further redundancies over the next two years.

Lockmaker closes: Scovill Security Products is to close its Yale lock-making division at Livingston, West Lothian, with the loss of 163 jobs next March.

The company is negotiating to form a new company which would continue to manufacture some of the products on a sub-contract basis and employ some *of the redundant workers.*

Fabric factory shuts: Bond Street Fabrics is to close its loss-making Thompstone factory in Leicester. About 150 workers will lose their jobs. The company said yesterday that there had been a susbstantial fall in demand.

Courtaulds short-time: Courtaulds has put another 112 production workers on short-time at its nylon fibres plant at Aintree, Liverpool. A quarter of the 1,500 workers are now on short time, averaging three days a week.

New estate: The Scottish Development Agency plans to site an industrial estate at the *disused Dundyvan tube works in* Coatbridge, Lanarkshire. It will cost between £4m and £5m and could create 750 jobs in an area badly affected by unemployment. It should be completed within three to five years.

IBM faces trade abuse charges in Brussels

From Peter Norman
Brussels, Jan 6

The European Commission has accused International Business Machines (IBM) of abusing its dominant position as a supplier of computing equipment within the Community.

It confirmed today that it had sent IBM headquarters in Armonk, New York, a letter on December 19 listing a number of alleged abuses under article 86 of the Treaty of Rome.

A spokesman refused to give any details of the Commission's complaints arguing that it provided for IBM to use against the Brussels authorities if the dispute came to court. The Commission's letter, which is thought to be a *weighty document*, is a first shot in what could become a long campaign.

IBM has said it is confident that it has fully complied with the rules of the EEC, and today confirmed that it would respond to the Commission's statement.

IBM has two months to answer the EEC's formal statement *of objections to its business* practices, whereupon the Commission will decide either to drop the case or proceed against what it considers to be abuses of the Community's free competition rules.

An investigation of IBM's business practices in Europe was started in July 1974 after eight rival computer companies had complained to Brussels. It is understood that the Commission has based its complaints on a study of IBM's business between 1974 and 1979.

IBM says that it has cooperated fully in the Commission's inquiry. It has been rather more forthcoming about the details of the Commission's complaints, saying that the objections relate to including minimum main memory in the pricing of certain processes, providing interface information to competitors and certain software issues.

According to IBM, some of the objections raised by the Commission are similar to *claims that have already been* litigated in the United States and resolved in its favour.

IBM is not the first multinational corporation to be taken to task by the Commission for alleged breaches of article 86.

Article 86 specifies that abuse of a dominant market position can consist of:

1 Directly or indirectly imposing unfair purchase or selling prices or other unfair trading conditions;

2 Limiting production, markets or technical development to the prejudice of consumers;

3 Applying dissimilar conditions to equivalent transactions with other trading parties, placing them at a competitive disadvantage;

4 Making the conclusion of contracts subject to acceptance by the other parties of supplementary obligations which, by their nature or according to commercial usage, have no connexion with the subject of such *contracts.*

Southampton dry docks to shut

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

The ship repairing industry in Southampton faces extinction with the lohs of 1,000 jobs after the decision by the British Transport Docks Board to close two dry docks in the port.

The two docks—the only ones on the south coast capable of handling large ocean going ships—have been operated by Vosper Shiprepairers, the British Shipbuilders' subsidiary.

Over the past few months discussions have been taking place between Sir Humphrey Browne, chairman of BTDB and Mr Robert Atkinson, *chairman of* BS, over financing of the loss-making dry docks.

Provisional agreement for the docks to be transferred from the BTDB to BS was reached last year but the heavy losses being made by BS—likely to top £100m this year—have led the state shipbuilding corporation *to withdraw planned contributions* to cover the cost of maintenance and improvement of the two docks.

BS, which lost £10.3m on its shiprepair activities last year with Vosper Shiprepair losses accounting for £4.3m of the total, had planned to have talks with the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions on the need to restructure the Southampton operation. But the BTDB decision to close the docks announced yesterday appears to have caught BS by surprise.

In a statement the state shipbuilding corporation, which is now attempting to hold urgent talks with the CSEU, said: "In *the light of the* decision by the BTDB to close the two docks, the situation has been dramatically altered and it is the intention, as a matter of extreme urgency to BS, to consult with the CSEU on the whole future of shiprepairing at Southampton."

Sir Humphrey Browne: chairman, British Transport Docks

Mr Robert Atkinson: chairman, British Shipbuilders.

Last year the BTDB overall operation at Southampton recorded a loss of £653,000, a large part of which was accounted for by losses sustained on the drydocks which it owns, caused by high maintenance and running costs.

The smaller of the two docks was opened 75 years ago and the larger King George V dock was *designed* and built to accommodate the Queen Mary, the former Cunard liner.

The board said that it could no longer continue to bear the heavy losses of dry docks and in the absence of any agreement from BS to meet the board's costs it had been decided to cease operations of the docks from December 31 last.

Provisional agreement for a transfer had been reached with BS last year, the BTDB said, but BS had indicated that it was unable to stand by that agreement and had declined to make any contribution to the *losses incurred by the BTDB.*

"The BTDB has explained to BS that they are unable to subsidize ship repairing operations, leaving it with no alternative than to discontinue tion of the dry docks," the BTDB said.

A spokesman for the board said that the option for BS to make some *contribution* towards the cost of the docks remained open.

Only a part of the Vosper Shiprepair workforce would be threatened immediately since dry docking is not essential for all the company's work, but clearly dock facilities are essential if the company is to attract business.

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

Anglo Am Corp	16p to 692p	Owen Owen	8p to 116p
De Beers Dfd	14p to 425p	*Philips Lamps*	*7p to 307p*
Elsburg Gold	15p to 241p	Polly Peck	12p to 160p
Kinross	31p to 728p	Saatchi	9p to 260p
Lovell Hldgs	7p to 170p	Western Areas	31p to 387p

Falls

Electrocomps	15p to 693p	Howden Grp	15p to 120p
Fisons	18p to 175p	Husky Oil	55p to 735p
Grattan W'hse	4p to 56p	Imp Cont Gas	13p to 248p
Guthrie Corp	*13p to 662p*	*Midland Ind*	*7p to 53p*
Horizon Travel	8p to 139p	Renwick Grp	11p to 73p

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells		Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	2.11	2.03	Norway Kr	12.87	12.32
Austria Sch	34.75	32.75	Portugal Esc	135.50	127.00
Belgium Fr	78.00	74.50	South Africa Rd	2.14	2.01
Canada $	2.94	2.86	Spain Pts	196.50	188.00
Denmark Kr	15.00	14.32	Sweden Kr	10.92	10.42
Finland Mkk	9.65	9.20	Switzerland Fr	4.39	4.18
France Fr	11.17	10.72	USA $	2.48	2.41
Germany DM	4.85	4.63	Yugoslavia Dnr	83.00	78.00
Greece Dr	132.00	125.00			
Hongkong $	12.80	12.20			
Ireland Pt	1.31	1.26			
Italy Lir	2310.00	2200.00			
Japan Yn	510.00	484.00			
Netherlands Gld	5.25	5.02			

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Privy Council asks institution to explain abrupt policy switch

Engineers head towards unchartered waters

The Privy Council is understood to have intervened in the dispute within the Institution of Electrical Engineers (IEE) over plans for a new watchdog body for engineering. The IEE is one of the big three engineering institutions.

The move could cause serious delays in launching the new body because of fresh difficulties involving other engineering institutions and the Council of Engineering Institutions (CEI).

The Privy Council, which grants and polices Royal Charters, apparently has asked the IEE's leadership to explain why the institution switched policy without taking account of its members' opinions. The Privy Council has powers to discipline the IEE's governing council or revoke its charter.

A central factor could be a poll of IEE members carried out in November 1979 when 92 *per cent favoured a new* watchdog body with statutory backing to operate a licensing system for engineers.

It is understood that a copy of the poll has been called for by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, who is a member of the Privy Council and who is attempting to get final agreement on the structure of the new body.

Sir Keith has proposed a chartered body and set his face against any statutory backing. But until the middle of last year the IEE was in the forefront of the campaign for statutory regulation. Then, following leadership changes, the IEE in a surprise policy switch backed Sir Keith's proposal. There have been suggestions since that the IEE, despite Sir Keith's views, would continue to seek statutory backing in the longer term.

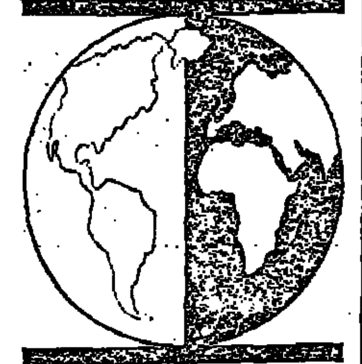
The dispute takes another turn tomorrow with an emergency meeting of the IEE called by a group of members led by Mr Arthur Palmer, Labour MP for Bristol North-east. Members will be asked to repudiate the policy switch and secure a return to the IEE's previous stance.

This again would upset Department of Industry attempts to secure broad agreement on the watchdog body's structure.

These manoeuvres could lead members of the smaller engineering institutions to question their leaders' commitment to the Joseph Plan.

Also, the CEI has yet to be persuaded that it should give up its own royal charter to make way for the new organization. The CEI shares concern in the profession that the Department of Industry favours over 50 per cent representation on the new body for industry rather than individual engineers. Much is likely to depend on how many industrialist members are also professional engineers.

Derek Harris



Bonn talks on Polish financing

Polish officials are due in Bonn at the end of this week to discuss their country's financing position with West German economic ministry officials, informed sources say.

The talks are not seen as intergovernmental discussions but as low level briefing consultations between officials before the meeting of Poland's Western creditors later this month in Paris.

West Germany has given no direct state credits to Poland, limiting its interest to loan guarantees, and the sources said this week's talks will not deal with the possibility of any new credits or the rescheduling of loans.

Concorde losses

Ninety per cent of the losses incurred by Air France on its *Concorde operations will* be covered by the French Government under an agreement signed yesterday with the state-*owned airline. Under a* previous agreement, which expired at the end of last year, the government's share of the loss *amounted to 70 per cent. The* new agreement expires at the end of 1983.

Chrysler aid denial

Peugeot in Paris has denied a Japanese newspaper report *that it is considering joint* action with Mitsubishi of Japan to ease Chrysler Corporation's financial difficulties. A spokesman said there *was no truth in* a report that Peugeot and Mitsubishi would hold talks on Chrysler's problems and might discuss *buying Chrysler* factories outside the United States.

$15m Hongkong issue

The Industrial Bank of Japan announces he issue of $15m (£6.25m), three-year floating rate Certificates of Deposit in Hongkong. This is the bank's first CD issue in Hongkong. Interest will be fixed half-yearly at 1.4 per cent above the six-month London Interbank offered rate.

French car plan

The CGT labour union has called for an emergency plan to help the French car industry. In a letter to President Valery Giscard d'Estaing CGT outlines a plan which includes cuts in petrol prices, a 50 per cent cut in the value-added tax on small and medium-range cars, and a freeze of car prices.

Australia credit

The International Monetary Fund has raised Australia's credit rating enabling it to borrow just over $12,000m (£4,979m), an increase of more than $400m. Australia's voting powers have been increased and Australia will be required to *contribute more to the Fund's* operations.

Air crash decision

Three Chicago appeals court judges have ruled that McDonnell Douglas cannot be sued for punitive damages over the crash of one of its DC-10 jets in the worst aviation disaster in United States history on May 25, 1979, when 273 people were killed.

Fiat talks continue

Fiat will send a delegation to China later this month to continue talks on a possible *multi-million dollar contract* to build a diesel engine plant at Loyang, central China, and modernise an existing tractor plant in north China, a Fiat spokesman said in Turin.

Satellites order

Matra has been awarded satellite orders worth a total 1.260m francs (£113m) by France's *National Space* Research Centre. The order is for Matra's "spot" observation satellites and for communications *satellites, the company* said.

Philippine strike

Mr Blas Ople, the Philippine labour minister has ordered about 6,500 miners to return *to work, as the strike in one* of the country's biggest gold mining companies, the Benguet Corporation, entered its second day.

German bank meeting

The German Federal Bank is unlikely to make any changes it its credit policies at its first central council meeting of the New Year tomorrow, banking economists and market sources said.

Steel cutback

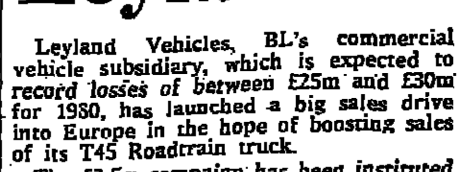
Nippon Steel, Japan's largest steelmaker, is holding down crude steel production in the *January-March quarter to* 7.1 million tons, the lowest level in 10 years.

Rupee devalued

The Reserve Bank of India devalued the rupee against sterling by 1.31 per cent to a *new middle rate of 19.10 to* the pound from 18.85.

£375m refinery

Santos Petroleum is to build a A$750m (£375m) port and refinery for crude oil and natural gas products at Whyalla, South Australia.



Hopes rest on award winning vehicle as group's sales slump

Leyland's truck drive into Europe

Leyland Vehicles, BL's commercial vehicle subsidiary, which is expected to *record losses of between* £25m and £30m for 1980, has launched a big sales drive into Europe in the hope of boosting sales of its T45 Roadtrain truck.

The £3.5m campaign *has been instituted* at a time when the United Kingdom truck market has fallen to the new low levels. This year, some manufacturers believe that total sales of commercial *vehicles in* Britain will be 40 per cent down on 1979.

It was announced yesterday that the Roadtrain, one of a new family of LVL trucks that has cost £60m *to design and* develop, has been named Truck of the Year for 1981. LVL said that the award, made by a panel of journalists from 10 countries, would be of incalculable value in the new European drive.

Much of LVL's expected loss for last year occurred in the second half when the home market began to *slide into deep* recession. The company has streamlined its operation with a series of redundancies, which will mean the loss of a further 2,600 jobs in two months' time.

By then, LVL's labour force will be down to about 18,500 from its January 1979 level of more than 28,000. Most of LVL's workers are working short time.

The T45 project is part of LVL's £350m, five-year development programme and the drive into Europe comes as BL awaits a decision from the Government on its request for additional funds to help to finance its latest corporate plan, which will cost about £1,200m. BL's overall loss for 1980 is expected to be £350m-£400m.

The top-weight Roadtrain is to be launched in Belgium, France, Holland, Spain, Portugal and Denmark and it is hoped that sales will exceed 300 this year. In the United Kingdom, where the vehicle has won 15 *per cent of the* high-premium articulated tractor market, sales of between 900 and 1,000 units are expected this year.



The T45 Roadtrain: named as the Truck of the Year by journalists from 10 European countries.

Mr Ian Wilson, LVL's newly-appointed European operations director, yesterday said that it was planned in the next two *or three years to double the company's* share of the heavy vehicle markets in Europe. "We are going to select carefully the markets where we can get the best *growth opportunities", he said.*

The Roadtrain, which is to be joined by the next member of the T45 range—a medium-sized truck — in the next two weeks, is to be sold through LVL's 205 European distributors, many of whom are already BL car dealers. Mr Wilson stressed that, despite the disadvantage of a high value pound, the trucks would be sold at competitive prices.

Leyland Vehicles, now the heavy truck market leader in Britain, is beginning to see the fruits of its big capital spending *programme after a decade of* under-investment.

Edward Townsend

More work short-time but fewer strikes

By David Blake
Economics Editor

The *recession's sharp* impact on employment and working hours is charted in the latest *issue of the Department of Employment Gazette*, which shows a big increase in short-time working last autumn.

At *the same time the number* of poeple in employment also fell sharply. But, perhaps because of the downturn in the labour market, *1980 looks like* emerging as a year when an unusually small number of days were lost through industrial disputes.

A total of 467,000 workers, 10.4 per cent of the total employed in manufacturing, was on short-time working in October. On average, each lost 15.4 hours or about 38 per cent of the *standard working week.*

The total in lost hours was 7.19 million, 1.82 million up from September. Most indus*tries were affected, with* particularly severe problems in steel, motor cars and textiles and clothing.

Most people on short time lose a few hours a week. But some are laid off for up to a week at a time. Government subsidies have encouraged companies to put their workers on to short time rather than to make them redundant.

But despite these incentives the number of people in employment declined sharply. The total number of people employed in industry fell, on a seasonally adjusted basis, by 94,000 in October to 8,258,000.

Since May 1979, 700,000 jobs have disappeared in industry. Total employment is now 15 per cent below its 1973 level.

The only good news in the *latest figures is the sharp* reduction in days lost through strikes, which fell to 157,000 in November, about a quarter of *the days lost in the same month* last year.

In the first 11 months of 1980, a total of 11.9 million days were lost, compared with 29.28 million days lost in the same period in 1979.

Liquidation warning by BSC chairman

By Peter Hill

If the 130,000 workers employed by the British Steel Corporation failed to accept a survival plan it could lead to *the liquidation of the business*, Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the BSC said yesterday.

The corporation is conduct*ing a ballot of the workforce on* the plan, which means a six-month pay freeze, the closure of some works and the shedding of at least 20,000 jobs.

Ballot forms have been distributed by the Electoral Reform Society and the result will be announced at the end of next week.

This ballot coincides with another being organized by the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation the industry's largest single union whose members are being urged to reject the plan.

Interviewed on Independent Radio News, Mr MacGregor, who has warned workers that their support is vital if he is to persuade the Cabinet to provide a further £750m of taxpayers' money for the BSC next *year, said*: "If our employees preponderantly reject what we are proposing to do, we are really starting the process of liquidation of the company, because if the employees do not believe in working for its future, why should anyone else?"

He reaffirmed the importance which the BSC attaches to the ballot in an *interview with BBC television* when he said that if workers showed by their replies that they were not prepared to make the enterprise a success, he would consider it imprudent to ask the Government for more money.

Mr William Sirs, general secretary of the ISTC described the BSC ballot as "*ludicrous, nonsense and* a waste of money".

He said: "Our members do not respond to these sorts of threats. Threatening the workforce in this way does not necessarily produce the results Mr MacGregor wants."

Loss likely this year for British Airtours

By David Hewson

British Airtours, British Airways' charter subsidiary, which last year proved one of the ailing airline's most successful operations, is expected to make a loss this year.

The company, which carries passengers for BA's own package tour companies of *Sovereign, Enterprise* and Speedbird, as well as many other operators, predicts a surplus for the year of £800,000 *instead of the* £1.8m which BA had planned.

After the payment of interest on the capital invested in the start of a new aircraft fleet to replace the company's aging and costly-to-run 707s, Airtours is likely to make a loss, though it is not yet clear by how much.

Mr Stephen Hanscombe, *managing director of Airtours*, has written in an internal memorandum to staff: "This is a disappointing result for the first year in which we have the advantage of our new and more efficient aircraft, but it does reflect the very difficult conditions in air transport at the *present time*".

Last year Airtours made a record profit of £4.2m after interest and before tax, compared with £1.7m *the previous* year. It was one of the bright spots in BA's annual report which disclosed a £58m drop in *post-tax and dividend profit* to £4m.

The company's problems in the charter market are likely to *be reflected in some of its rivals* in coming months. Mr Hanscombe predicts in his memorandum: "Winter is poor and on the basis of forward bookings the total charter market looks like being some 20 per cent down on last year. A number of leading tour operators have launched large programmes, but already some of them are having to cut back.

"In addition, because there is a good deal too much capacity on the market, revenue rates are depressed as well as programmes being reduced."

Airtours' problems have been aggravated by the recession in schedule airline business. It had planned to operate two of its Boeing 737s for BA's mainline operations, but the fall in business meant that they were not *required. The decision came too* late for Airtours to try to sell the aircraft elsewhere.

Airtours planned to fly 23,200 hours last summer and finished the season with a shortfall of 1,800 hours. Its planned flying hours for the winter have not been disclosed, but the company expects them to fall 2,000 hours below the budget.

British tour operators were optimistic on future bookings when launching their brochures for next year, adding a total of around 20 per cent extra capacity in the charter market.

Claims that the increased *capacity is being matched by* bookings are being met with some sceptimism in the travel business. At least one big pack*age operator's pre-Christmas* bookings were below the previous year's levels.

Union plea to Chrysler creditors

Washington, Jan 6.—Mr Douglas Fraser, president of the United Auto Workers, said Chrysler cannot survive unless the economy improves and interest rates come down.

Mr Fraser said there is still a chance for Chrysler if all parties involved made concessions.

He said UAW officials would meet with Chrysler executives *in Detroit tomorrow to spell* out what they will want in return for wage concessions.

Chrysler has asked the workers to accept a 21-month wage freeze. Mr Fraser declined to say whether this was acceptable.

He said there is a possibility the union may ask Chrysler to share future *profits* with workers.

Mr Fraser said Chrysler should ask the Government for all the federal loan guarantees *for which it is eligible.*

Chrysler has been granted $800m of the $1,500m in guarantees that Congress has authorized and the company is seeking another $400m.

Mr Fraser told reporters: "Instead of giving them $400m, why not give the. $700m?"

He added he expects others involved in the Chrysler dilemma to make as many sacrifices as the workers.

"I think the banks, if they want to make a corresponding sacrifice, should just write off the loans [to Chrysler]", he said.

NEDO claims Japanese economic recovery provides lesson for UK

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

Mr. Geoffrey Chandler, director general of the National Economic Development office has said that it would be surprising if Japan's entry into the front rank of developed industrial countries did not provide lessons for the United Kingdom.

Amid growing concern over *the inroads into the European* market being made by Japanese exports, NEDO has produced a study of Japan's economic and *industrial performance*. The results of the study form one of a series of occasional discussion papers trying to establish the reason for the continuing economic success of some of Britain's main competitors and suggest areas which Government, industry and trade unions might exploit.

In a foreword to the report Mr Chandler said: "It would be folly not to try to learn from those who have been more successful than us in a world of industry and technology in which national boundaries are of diminishing importance."

Mr Roger Gibbs, the author of the paper emphasized the important role played by the government in the development and implementation of industrial policy in Japan.

Not only did the Japanese Government determine the economic framework and pursue certain macro-economic policies, it had also tried to stimulate and guide development.

"This has been undertaken largely through the encouragement of consensus with industry and the financial institutions, with only marginal commitment of government resources", he said.

The consensus policies and *the interplay between government* and industry had taken place against a backcloth of social attitudes and institutions which differed in a number of ways from those found in other countries.

They included loyalty to the company by employees and the effects of employment and payments systems which provided for increased flexibility in the development of both capital and labour.

In Japanese industry there was also an acceptance by the financial institutions of high overhead costs "and hence high apparent risk", and there was the traditional close involvement of banks with companies, and the role of government as a *lender of last resort.*

One of the most significant and intriguing features of Japanese economic development was *the role of government*, especially the all pervasive activities of the Ministry of International Trade and *Industry*.

A network of advisory councils had been set up, the main body being the Industry Structure Council set up by *ministry* 16 years ago which with its main sub-committees advised on short and long-term industrial policy.

It was unlikely that Britain could expect to achieve significant benefits by borrowing only certain Japanese institutions and policies. To have any effect it would have to make a number of changes.

cessful economies — Japan. Roger Gibbs, NEDO Books, price £2.50.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Killing 'the goose' with fuel tax

From Mr A. J. Forrester

Sir, It may be naive to suggest it, but it seems that we are allowing depression hysteria to obscure the true tragedy of the present situation in Great Britain.

We are in an unique position among the nations of the world. We, alone, have the combination of our own oil and coal, manufacturing capacity, capability and manpower. Add to that the advantage of the pound's international strength, keeping down the cost of imported raw materials, and we should be in a position to beat the world with our manufactured goods.

It is a proven fact of economics that a reduced unit *price increases* sales, turnover and profit.

To inflate the price of fuel, especially oil and gas, to fund Government spending, is to kill the goose before it reaches puberty.

Fuel represents a major factor in industrial and private budgeting. To treat it as a source of taxation revenue, *may* be an ideal short-term political face-saver, but is disastrous in long-term effect.

Cutting the cost of fuel would not hinder the development of oil and gas supplies. However, it would give British industry the fillip it requires to cut costs and become unbeatably competitive.

This would stimulate employment, thereby reducing the burden of unemployment costs, and stimulate domestic demand, thus building up the home market, so essential to manufacturers.

The Government *might* well suffer a serious short-term cash-flow problem, but this would be salved as direct taxes on corporate profits, and private incomes, increase, while the cost of funding unemployment reduces.

As a by-product, this action would reduce the cost of living *and so inflation. This, in turn* might encourage union leaders to accept realistic wage settlements.

Can it be that easy? Have I missed some subtle point in the swinging of the fuel tax sledge hammer?

Yours faithfully,
A. J. FORRESTER,
4 Gomer Gardens,
Teddington,
Middlesex.
January 2.

Survival of mass car production

From Mr N. Hussain

Sir, Mr Bourlet's letter (December 30) gives a welcome *insight into* the realities of left-wing measures to help the economy (high tariffs, etc); however, he seems to have taken for *granted the loss* of mass produced car production in Great Britain. Yet on the same day Professor Bhaskar's report revealed the *political* and economic "*unacceptability*" of their closure.

Mr Bourlet suggests our comparative advantage lies elsewhere in the United Kingdom economy, but surely the comparative advantage which Japan *possesses in motor* production is the product of her successful earlier investment. The survival of mass car pro*duction in the United Kingdom must similarly* be based on investment to improve our own comparative advantage in mass production—it cannot simply be conjured up out of thin air.

Yours faithfully,
N. HUSSAIN,
London School of Economics,
New Hall,
90 Rosebery Avenue,
London EC1.

Domestic lesson for the national economy

From Mrs Marion Monahan

Sir, "Why is it that our standard of living is going up when everyone else's is going down?" *This question* from one of my children who had been listening attentively to the "news" made me feel as skilful as an *industrialist of one of our booming* companies must feel when asked by a worker: "How is it that we have plenty of overtime, a Christmas bonus and a pay rise, while other firms are laying-off workers?"

Or as the head of state of one of the countries at the top of the EEC league table when asked by a member at the bottom: "*How is it that you have* raised your economic performance while ours is sinking rapidly?"

And being an irrespressibly didactic mother this letter answers my child's question. After all, one day he may have to take responsibility for the management of a family, or a business, or an organization.

Seven years ago my husband was made redundant through ill-health and I was faced with the prospect of bringing up seven children, five at school and *two under five, on invalid*ity benefit. My husband's illness required constant nursing on my part so there was no ques*tion of my being able to go out* to work. But we had advantages —a large garden to grow food in and an oil-fired heating system which was economical to run.

No family is an island, however, and world *circumstances* soon rocked our little boat. The price of heating oil soared, the children's shoes and clothes become major items on the budget, food became dearer. I blessed the small Scottish town where *I spent my childhood.* There I had survived through the Depression and the shortages of war-time—I knew how to cope.

But our family has more than coped. We have climbed out of our recession brought about by the oil crisis. When our weekly bill for our 15-year-old boiler was touching £8 per week we "modernized". The gas system which replaced it now "saves" us £5 per week and has paid for its own installation cost in a year.

Reduced expenditure on heat*ing has meant enough capital to* buy a home freezer. Bulk buying and storing garden produce is saving £10 per week on the food bill, which means I can now buy a vacuum cleaner to reduce the time I now spend cleaning the house.

Hopefully, I will be able to use this time to do what I am really best at—craft work, gardening and writing. This *should increase* our standard of living even further by providing craft articles and delicacies *for my family which would cost* a great deal to buy.

So the world hit our family with a hammer and we bounced back to shape. *It also hit* our industry and our country as a whole. If they are to bounce back too is not the secret to be found in my story?

1. Cut your coat to fit your cloth—just as I was taught in Scotland.

2. Modernize when absolutely necessary.

Yours sincerely,
MARION MONAHAN,
90 Brentry Lane,
Brentry,
Bristol BS10 6RQ.

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Towards the next decision on MLR

The preliminary indication that sterling M3 grew by around one half per cent in the December banking month was rather better than financial markets had been going for. But if that was a plus point, there was some *disappointment about the apparent composition* of monetary growth last month.

Whereas most analysts had been expecting another low figure for bank lending to the private sector, outweighed by a large expansionary influence from the public sector, the situation appears to have been precisely the reverse. The disappointment in this lies in the fact that whereas a low figure for bank lending would have strongly confirmed the feeling that growth in private sector credit demand was now decelerating fast, a large figure for the public sector's contribution to domestic credit expansion would have been acceptable in view of the turnround in the public sector's finances expected for the January-March period.

As it turns out, it would seem that the seasonally adjusted PSBR for the period was well down on the November figure and that the non-bank private sector's take-up of public sector debt was higher than official debt sales might suggest. Instead, the real expansionary force in DCE looks to have been private sector loan demand, with the clearing banks alone suggesting an underlying increase of some £400m.

After some of the figures seen earlier last year that is not one to get alarmed about, however. What is more, it may well be that the figure has been inflated by the corporate sector switching back into sterling borrowing as the cost of short term dollar borrowing soared.

Where all this leaves us is another matter. Banking December is an odd month, being only three weeks long. Banking January, lasting six weeks, is equally odd and likely to provide a much more significant set of figures. But those figures, which at this stage may well be considered to hold the *key to any MLR cut ahead of the Budget*, are unlikely to be pieced together until near the end of the month.

Howden Group
Why the bulls are there

It looked as though bulls were taking profits in Howden Group yesterday. The share price *of the Glasgow-based air-gas and fluid* handling equipment maker fell 16p to 120p on unchanged interim profits of just over £3m accompanied by a maintained dividend.

But the reason for the bulls being there in the first place still stands. Howden's record against the mechanical engineering sector



Sir Francis Tombs, former chairman of the Electricity Council, who has just joined Howden Group's board.

has been outstandingly good, and, despite the battering others have taken during the *recession, it should maintain some sort of* growth this year.

There are some short-term gaps in home order books, but overseas, particularly in South Africa and Australia, business is good. What really counts, however, is that within *the next few weeks Howden will sign contracts*, worth perhaps £80m spread over five or six years, for supplying gas circulators for the new AGR nuclear power stations.

This, a sound balance sheet and the fact that Howden should still cover its dividend on a current cost basis are reflected in a share price rated on a yield of 4.3 per cent and a p/e ratio of 7¼.

The shares have just about doubled during the past twelve months and there must be a *temptation to take profits, though* investors with a long-term mixed portfolio could hardly find a safer engineering "hold" at present.

Portals' rights
Leaving little to chance

Third time lucky? Portals, the banknote and engineering concern is raising a net £8.75m through a rights issue at par of £9m of convertible loan stock 1994-2000 in the ratio of £1 nominal of stock for every two shares held. Just before Christmas London Merchant Securities said that 86 per cent of its £25m effort was left with underwriters; just after Christmas Arthur Bell admitted that underwriters were lumbered with 75 per cent of its £14m stock.

Portals wants its money by February 13, so even though the Bank of England with 28.8 per cent of Portals' shares is taking up its entitlement—Morgan Grenfell has underwritten the rest—the merchant bank and its sub underwriters will have plenty of time to worry. Meanwhile one thing is clear. If the Portals convertible flops, this form of fund raising is dead. Underwriters can take only so much.

Happily, the terms of the Portals convertible show that Morgans and broker Rowe Pitman are leaving little to chance. And yesterday *Portals shares rose* 5p to 383p, in contrast to the plunges suffered by both London Merchant and A. Bell.

The rise was justified. Portals also reported a rise in 1980 pre tax profits from £11m to £12m, almost maintaining the interim pace, and the dividend is to be 11.4 per cent bigger. Even so the yield is still only 4.6 per cent while the coupon on the convertible is 9½ per cent. Nor has the group and its advisors made the mistake of pitching the convertible's conversion price too high. The effective conversion price from 1984 on is 400p.

Portals wants the money (despite a clean balance sheet) for a big United States acquisition, and to finance much bigger water treatment contracts, one of which is under negotiation in the Middle East. Selective acquisitions are also indicated, and the record suggests that Portals will use its new money wisely.

● *For the first time since 1949 there seems to be a real chance that holders of Chinese bonds will be repaid. False dawns have broken before, but on this occasion the combination of the remarkable political change in Peking, the determination of the British Government to settle all outstanding Chinese claims, and the precedent of the 1979 American agreement, makes a settlement probable.*

The markets certainly thought so, with normally somnolent dealings leaping back to life as speculative buyers scrambled for the bigger outstanding issues. At the moment, the sellers seem to be holding back, partly because those who bought in the last wave of enthusiasm two years ago are waiting for prices to reach the point where they can make a profit.

But, as we saw with Rhodesian bonds, this is a market which can easily overheat. While it is understandable that bondholders—at £61m the unredeemed bonds have the biggest face value of all the claims listed by the Council of Foreign Bondholders—should be more optimistic, and that speculators should see the prospect of quick capital gains, it is most unlikely that a settlement could be reached for at least two years. Yesterday's excitement could, therefore, be premature.

It is also far from certain that the full value of the outstanding bonds will be paid, and the Chinese Government has not yet abandoned its position that no prerevolutionary debts will be honoured all the bonds were in default before 1949. Nevertheless, the normally cautious Council is allowing itself a small smile, and if a successful settlement is reached it will be another credit to one of the City's more arcane, but valuable, institutions.

Economic policy: why the Government must keep its nerve

'To alter the constraints now would simply impose a new shock on the economy and would ensure that the sufferings of 1980 were in vain'

It is hard to believe those supporters of *Government policy* who claim that it is all going according to plan, but at the same time we need not accept the claim that the failures were totally predictable. The past year brought surprises for everybody; what lessons can be learnt about the behaviour of the economy and the future course of economic policy?

In 1980 the British economy was subjected to a massive shock. In such cases it is extremely difficult to predict in detail how the economy will respond; we do not know which parts are inflexible and which parts will alter rapidly and *extensively*.

The shock to the economy was the combination of a continued rise in the exchange rate and a rapid increase in wages. In terms of their international purchasing power, wages in manufacturing rose by more than 15 per cent in real terms during the last pay round. This was far more than the economy could afford and the company sector was forced to find ways *to adjust*.

The strengthening of international competition as the world boom came to an end and the rise in the exchange rate meant that firms could not pass the higher wages on in higher *prices. They held prices down* and as a result the level of final demand (consumption, exports and fixed capital investment) remained reasonably strong for much of the year, but the strangulation of cash flows and profits led companies to seek desperately for some way of saving money.

They ran down stocks and so cut orders and production. Stocks took much of the strain, but it was not enough. Employment was cut drastically. It is quite exceptional for unemployment to rise so early and so rapidly in response to a fall in output.

But even this did not relieve the financial strain completely. Companies were forced to borrow heavily and this generated a growth in the supply of money, which the personal sec*tor was happy to hold at high* real rates of interest.

Thus the pressures on the economy and particularly on the company sector produced a sharp fall in output and stocks, a sharp rise in unemployment and, most ironically, a rapid rise in the money supply (sterling M3).

What are the lessons for policy? The experiences of 1980 have revealed a major *problem to which it is hard to* see any solution. It concerns the behaviour of sterling M3—the cornerstone of the Government's medium-term strategy.

The excessive growth of the money supply in 1980 was partly a response *to the pres*sures on the economy. The Government chose (largely by default) to let the money supply grow and thereby reduced the problems of the company sector without any immediate cost in terms of inflation, although the long-term effect is open to question.

In doing this it demonstrated that it did not regard control of M3 as an over-riding short-term objective of economic policy. In terms of fiscal policy the aim of reducing the *underlying* growth of the money supply will remain, presumably, a prime *objective*. But the short-term relationship between fiscal policy and the growth of the money supply is, admittedly, very loose.

The problem is that the Government has no short-term guide to its financial policy. It does not know how to react when monetary growth exceeds the upper limits for several months at a stretch. Indeed, it admits that it cannot effectively control the growth of M3 over a period as long as four months or more.

In terms of its longer-term objectives this may be perfectly acceptable, but the idea that the growth of sterling M3 *should be on course "taking one year with another"* is simply not a sufficient guide to action.

It is this lack of a short-term indicator which made it impossible for the Government to judge when it was safe to allow interest rates to fall. (It chose to cut minimum lending rate by 2 per cent at a time when M3 was still way above its limit. This may have been correct, but is difficult to justify within the *context of the medium-term financial strategy*.)

The search for a clearer indicator justifies the revived interest in monetary base control, not as a means of controlling M3 but as a short-term guide to policy. But even though monetary base control may provide the answer, its introduction would have to be largely experimental, so that in the crucial next year or so the Government would not know how to use it.

It is as if a major operation were to be carried out using a new monitoring device in which nobody knew quite what the numbers meant or what the safety margins were. I suspect that the problem may be insoluble, at least in the transitional stage while inflation is being reduced and while the economy is still under considerable strain.

At the same time a familiar lesson has been painfully reinforced. This is that the "medium-term financial strategy" is accurately named. It covers only one part of the Government's activities—namely its financial operations—and it is a strategy for the medium term. It was not intended to solve all the short-term problems of the economy; indeed, it was always likely that it would add to them.

I believe that a medium-term financial strategy is an essential part of any attempt to produce long-term price stability. But belief in its role as a framework for policy is one thing; it is quite another to know how it will operate as a device for reducing the inflation rate from more than 20 per cent a year to under five per cent (or whatever target the Government has in mind). We have seen that wages gained considerable momentum from the inflation of 1979 and 1980. Since wages did not adjust, employment adjusted instead.

The bitter experiences of 1980 raise questions about how rapidly the counter-inflationary policy should have proceeded and whether it should have been reinforced by other measures to control inflation directly. As far as the future is concerned, I believe that it would be disastrous to abandon or modify the medium-term strategy now.

The first year was bound to be the worst. In its attempt to produce a regime of stable macro-economic policies, the Government started by making changes which caught much of the economy by surprise. The problems for industry were greatly increased by the unexpected (and largely unexplained) rise in the exchange rate. Last year also revealed weaknesses in the Government's own policy instruments. Apart from the question of sterling M3, there is also the potentially far more serious question of whether the Government can control public expenditure.

But, if the strategy is maintained, the economy will be able to come back into balance. There are already encouraging signs that wages at least in the *private sector are coming into* line with the constraints of the medium-term financial strategy. As wages adjust, it will be possible for output and employment to come back to normal levels.

To alter the constraints now would simply impose a new shock on the economy and would ensure that the sufferings of 1980 were in vain.

Alan Budd

The author is Director of the Centre for Economic Forecasting at the London Business School.

John Huxley

Is Europe heading for a trade war with US?

Fresh talks aimed at averting a damaging trade war between the European Community and the United States will take place over the next few weeks.

The main cause of conflict between the two trading blocks is the American systetm of subsidizing energy prices. This confers upon domestic producers, especially in industries which use the cheap energy both as fuel and feedstock, distinct and undeniable cost advantages.

Britain, in particular, has complained *vociferously* that these advantages are unfair. It alleges, too, that they have provided the basis for large-scale disruption by United States exports of several key European markets, including synthetic textiles and chemicals.

Until now ministers on both sides have preferred to "jaw" rather than to go to war.

In recent weeks, however, there have been clear signs that the patience of some Community members is becoming exhausted and that unless action is taken soon to remedy their long-running grievance over energy costs there could be a sharp and serious deterioration in trade relations.

Mr Cecil Parkinson, Minister for Trade in a government which has resolutely refused to be stampeded into protectionism by the *domestic textile* and clothing lobby, has given a candid warning of the potential dangers.

"There is an obvious unfairness which is much resented by America's trading partners throughout the world. Unless some action is taken to remove that unfairness, further unfairness will be perpetrated to balance that and away we shall go on the beginnings of a trade war." At Britain's urging, the Council of Ministers has instructed the commission to *hold new talks with the* Americans and report back on progress at its February meeting.

At the same time Mr Parkinson has told the new Administration of President-elect Reagan that artificial pricing of energy must be ended; "deregulation" of oil and gas prices, not due to be complete by 1985, must be accelerated.

Meanwhile, the United Kingdom Government wants to see *evidence of greater restraint by* the Washington administration and American producers, presumably either by limiting their market ambitions to an agreed percentage or by not setting prices at a level which is unrealistically low by European standards.

Pressing advantage

In fact, the Americans have been slow in pressing their advantages, which also include a large and fairly homogenous *domestic market, large economies* of scale and, in recent years at least, a dollar exchange rate which has made its products highly competitive in European markets. It is only in the past couple of years that the United States has made a determined attempt to boost exports.

Britain was a natural target for America's big push in textiles, which resulted in an increase in total export volume in 1979 of 45 per cent over 1978. Apart from the common language, geographical convenience and its free trading tradition, Britain has a well developed and highly concentrated retail and wholesale structure, which makes it vulnerable to a determined sales assault.

Equally understandable was the decision to attack the man-made sector of that market. British industry leaders allege that the energy cost differential alone confers a price advantage of more than 10 per cent on American products in European markets.

At a time when these markets were depressed and European producers were grappling *with* severe over-capacity, American imports surged. Industry figures suggest that the United States share of the man-made fibres market in Britain has increased from almost nothing to nearly a third over the past 18 months.

Comparing the first nine months of 1980 with the corresponding period in 1978 increases were recorded as follows: polyester filament yarn, *206 per cent*; man-made fibre bed linen, 317 per cent; man-made fibre tufted carpets, 931 per cent; and nylon carpet yarn, 95 per cent. Throughout 1980 fears grew of a similar surge in the export of other *petrochemical-based products* from the United States.

Action to stem the flow has so far been piecemeal and, British industry leaders would argue, ineffective. Last February, Britain was allowed by the commission to introduce quotas under the rules of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt) article XIX aimed at curbing imports of polyester filament and nylon carpet yarns. A quota for man-made carpets was refused. Sub*sequently, anti-dumping duties* were imposed on several products coming from America and European chemical industry leaders were at one time preparing cases for action against about twenty.

British ministers acknowledge that this package of measures has failed to tackle the root cause—energy pricing. Just before Christmas they announced that they would not seek renewal of the *quotas*. The man-made fibre producers had always argued that the quotas offered too little, too late.

Retaliatory action

The Americans were clamouring—as they were entitled to under article XIX—for compensation for the loss of business incurred. British wool textiles exports were a prime target for retaliatory action.

The balance of advantage did not lie in maintaining the quotas, the Government concluded. Instead, it announced its new initiative—"a common Community approach" aimed at forcing the United States to examine and rectify "the whole range of problems".

Industry leaders fear, however, that, as before, talks will drag on in desultory manner.

They are aware that the West Germans are unwilling to push the Americans too hard on *energy for fear of exacerbating* trade difficulties and suspect that the commission in general—maybe even the British Government, too—lacks the political will to press wholeheartedly the textile industry's case.

This may prove an especially embarrassing task at a time when the United Kingdom Government is engaged in a debate about whether to reduce the burden of energy costs to *domestic* industry.

Much will depend on the future pattern of American exporting. If, in spite of a recovery in domestic markets, United States producers maintain their drive, it is likely that more and louder voices will be raised within the Community for a hard line to be adopted.

Already, the British textiles industry has said that it would prefer to see the American *threat dealt with* under the provisions of the Multi-Fibre Arrangement (MFA), the complicated machinery by which international trade in textiles and clothing is regulated. For one thing, such action would *not allow the Americans to seek* compensation, as permitted under Gatt.

Equally, if not more important, it would demonstrate that the MFA is not merely a tool in the hands of the powerful, industrialized nations of the West for use against "disruptive" imports from low-cost sources outside this rich man's club.

Business Diary: Walters at work • Correlation Street?

Professor Alan Walters, Margaret Thatcher's new economic Svengali, began his £50,000 a year job at Downing Street yesterday with an impeccable display of Civil Service sang-froid and devotion to duty.

Ignoring reporters' questions with composure and charm he stepped off an overnight British Airways 747 flight from Washington with his wife Paddie and without a sign of jet-lag was taken straight to Number 10 for a 10 am meeting with the Iron Lady in her study.

He then adjourned to the office which has been specially set aside for him and spent the day liaising with his secretary (he has no other staff) about a schedule of meetings with government departments over the next few weeks.

His salary, £21,500 of which is being provided by the Conservative Centre for Policy Studies, has earned him rumblings of discontent from jealous Civil Servants. But they would have approved of the one, quite proper message he had for Fleet Street on arrival, and will, I am sure, soon win his way into their hearts.

Professor Walters, who has been lured from his position as Professor of Economics at the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, announced: "I don't know the exact details of my new job, but it will certainly be a challenge. I shall do as I'm told."

Downing Street disclosed that the 54-year-old professor, a hard-line monetarist, will meet the Prime Minister frequently and prepare papers for her as requested.

Britain is not the only country where the holders of commercial television franchises feel their grips slackening.

Japanese television companies, too, are finding their licence to print yen in question, although in their case it is legal confusion rather than former IBA chairperson Lady Plowden who is to blame.

It all began with the new foreign exchange law, which took many companies off the "restricted" list, under which overseas participation was not allowed above 15 per cent.

Among the beneficiaries are Japans many commercial television companies, to whom listing upon the Tokyo Stock Exchange is increasingly attractive.

So far, so good, except for the existence of another, contradictory, law—the Wireless Telegraphy Act. This empowers the Japanese Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications to cancel the licence of a broadcasting company should more than one fifth of the equity be acquired by non-Japanese.

In theory, all would still be well, were broadcasters to use another section of this Act to change the articles of association in order to limit overseas participation.

So far, not so good. On top of these two contradictory laws, the Foreign Exchange and the Wireless Telegraphy Acts, there is a third force—the Tokyo Stock Exchange. A company that interferes with the transferability of its stock runs counter to the tenets of the Tokyo Stock Exchange and the penalty for this is delisting.

At best, the stock exchange, the ministry and the television companies are heading for a great lining of lawyers' pockets. At worst, there could be an even greater all round loss of face.

Two of Japan's biggest broadcasting companies, NTV and TBS, are already quoted. Both have been very attractive to foreign investors.

So far, none of the three parties to this legislative snarl-up has been keen to make the first move in adjusting its set. Nonetheless, Tokyo's money men are beginning to mutter that it is about time Zenko Suzuki's new government sorted the matter out. The uncertainty is holding back new broadcasting issues.

Nomura Securities, a leading Japanese merchant bank not normally given to contentious public statements, is already saying in its current newsletter: "Someone had better come up with a bright idea in the not too distant future."



Hollowood

"This fellow Alan Walters, Mrs T's new economic and monetary adviser, is to pull down a cool £50,000 a year. There must be something I haven't fully appreciated in monetarism."

● Information moves so quickly in these technological days that Adam Butler must have been as surprised as anybody, particularly in the telecommunications industry, when he received the call to become Minister of State for Northern Ireland.

As Minister of State for Industry, Butler only two months ago had been given responsibility for information technology. Now he is handing over this portfolio, barely mastered, to sometime Heathite Kenneth Baker, chairman of the Tory backbench industry group.

The telecommunications industry is now worrying that representations about the controversial Telecommunications Bill that would have gone through Butler on their way up to the Minister, Sir Keith Joseph, will be held up while Baker reads his way in.

● Needled by the greater publicity won by its more militant continental counterparts and believing that, with Mrs Sally Oppenheim in charge, consumerism in Britain has gone distinctly off the boil, the Consumers' Association is at last planning to mobilize its task force of more than 600,000 subscribers to *Which?* magazine.

The next issue will launch a trio of campaigns and ministers and MPs must expect a lot more letters on the chosen subjects. The association is supplying campaign "kits" to all interested readers.

The first things *Which? wants to excite its readers* about are import controls on foreign clothing, the Common Agricultural Policy, and shop hours legislation. They will pit themselves against the textile *and* clothing lobbies, arguing that it is mechanization not imports which causes unemployment and that retaliation may leave British industry the net loser.

They will oppose the farm lobbies' pressure for higher agricultural prices and they hope to put a hard push to a private member's Bill to allow shopkeepers to open when they want.

Out of place: again I am indebted to reader J. A. Featherstone of Welwyn Garden City for intelligence from Taiwan. While in the port of Kaoshiung he came across a clinic with a sign outside advertising treatment for "sexual importance".

Ross Davies

Little cheer in the high street

Derek Harris

The best the retail trade expected of Christmas was a reasonable sales springboard into 1981. With the possible exception of smaler shops by all accounts they got it, even discounting that euphoric element that enters into any conversation with a retailer about invidual levels of sales performance.

The first burst of the January sales are also proving better than many had expected. But aead, probably for the whole of this year, there are chilly waters in which nobody would be surprised to see some competitors sink.

The year-long sale seen in 1980 are likely to continue in the high streets for some months yet. In household goods and clothing both department stores and other retailers see *cost inflation pushing up prices* at the counter only marginally.

Argos, BAT's discount catalogue showroom chain, will be raising prices by only 1.25 per cent in next month's spring and *summer catalogue* against the prices quoted in the latest edition published last August. (Prices in the August catalogue were 9 per cent higher than those which appeared in the February edition.)

Mr David Rammage, sales controller for Debenham's 70 department stores, sees no significant sign of cost increases pushing up the prices of household and personal goods. That is just as well, for retailers have little or no room for manoeuvre within their own margins.

Even the department stores have slimmed down their margins to what Mr Rammage claims to be "not much higher than the supermarkets".

Debenham's dash for growth by way of a low price policy must have squeezed its margins, but it has paid off in sales volume. The near five-week *run-up to Christmas* saw average sales increase by 28 per cent in value. The first day of the post-Christmas sale saw takings up 55 per cent on an annual comparison and the first seven days are up about 40 per cent overall.

With business this week still ahead of target Mr Rammage is now discounting the widespread anxiety about the risk of a dramatic fall-off in trade following the Christmas-new year holidays.

Argos's sales in the two weeks before Christmas were up 25 per cent on the year before—or nearly 16 per cent up after taking account of inflation. The first day of the post-Christmas sale saw trade trebled.

Sales figures regularly issued by the John Lewis Partnership put non-food sales in a more precise perspective. In the 22 weeks to December 27 department store sales were up 9.4 per cent on the same period last year, falling below the group's average 12.6 per cent estimate, but indicating a volume increase of about 2.5 per cent. Post-Christmas clearance sales were reported to be unexpectedly good, with opening day at the Oxford Street London store showing a 25 per cent rise on the year before.

More expensive household goods, from furniture and carpets to electrical goods—including television and radio—also seem to be on the move again. At John Lewis, sales of all electrical goods showed a 29 per cent rise in the 22-week period and at Debenham the new year business has been spread around all departments, including the higher priced household goods.

There is a strong suggestion—of which the increase in personal savings is an aspect—that consumers are increasingly scrutinizing every aspect of their spending. This has led to Sainsbury, which is riding high among the multiples with a market share that has gone from 11.5 per cent to 12.8 per cent in a year, taking a cautious view, especially of the next few trading months.

Sainsbury, heavily reliant on food sales, claims to have broken all records and exceeded its forecasts in the Christmas selling period, with sales of beer, wines and spirits up 20 per cent in volume. Mr Peter Davis, assistant managing director for buying and marketing, added: "So far there is no sign of any falling off in customer demand but we must take account of the possibility".

He gave warning that some sales could start tailing off soon, given the lower levels of wage settlements now coming through. Critical for food sales, usually resilient in a recession, are factors like mortgage interest rates and the cost of items like travelling, electricity, gas and rates.

The Sainsbury view on margins is that they are not easy. "We have no complaints, but it would be true to say that it is for us a harder fight for profits than for sales", said Mr Davis.

The Retail Consortium—the trade association which represents most retail interests in the country—has pointed out that pre-tax margins of the 10 largest retailers on the latest available six monthly figures were down 21 per cent, with company liquidations expected to be up 23 per cent last year on the previous year. It seems likely that this trend will worsen, at least in the first half of this year, despite the cushion provided by the last few weeks.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Stock markets

Wall Street rally fails to inspire equities

The stock market failed to draw any encouragement yesterday from the overnight rally on Wall Street, which came after further falls in the prime rate, and share prices drifted lower.

Even the money supply figures, which showed a rise of only 0.2 per cent last month, and the bank lending figures provided little impetus as persistent nervous selling continued. The Wholesale Price Index was apparently discounted.

Dealers reported plenty of stock on offer as hopes of a post-Christmas rally continued to fade and the end of the account drew closer. Electricals were a weak sector, particularly among companies with defence contracts, after the Cabinet shuffle. The consensus in the market was that the new defence chief, Mr John Nott, *would do his utmost* to reduce defence spending, which could only mean bad news for defence oriented groups.

Oils were another dull sector as further large amounts of stock came on offer with not a buyer to be seen.

Gilts started on a firm note, however, taking some comfort from the previous evening's news of lower interest rates in the United States. But with the new tap starting dealings tomorrow and the prospect of several cash calls next week buyers remained thin.

Despite rises of up to £¾ at one point, longs drifted in the wake of the money supply so that by the close gains had been restricted to between £¼ and £½.

News after hours of a further cut in prime rates to 19½ per cent by the Chemical Bank saw equities attempt a rally. But it was short lived and the *FT* Index closed at its low point for the day 5.3 lower at 467.6.

Reports that the Government had invited claims for compensation for the Chinese Communist revolution of 1949 saw a *flurry of activity* in Chinese bonds.

China 5 per cent 13 leapt £10 to £19 with similar rises in China 5 per cent 12 at £20 and China 4 per cent Engineering at £24. Another good gain was seen in China 5 per cent Boxer, up £8 at £17.

Pearson Longman, quoted publishing subsidiary of S. Pearson, slipped 1p to 164p. Some analysts have become bearish, and there has been a suggestion —strongly denied by the Pearson camp—that it may be thinking of selling the prestigious Financial Times.

Leading industrials had a worrying session overshadowed by Fisons, down 18p at 175p, after announcing restructuring plans resulting in the loss of over 1,000 jobs. ICI fell 4p to 318p, Beecham 1p to 175p, Glaxo 6p to 266p, Unilever 3p to 453p, *Courtaulds 1p to 54p*, Dunlop 2p to 68p and BAT 2p to 241p.

On the results front disappointing performances left Brown & Tawse 1p off at 100p, British Cinematograph down 5p at 58p and Howden 16p lower at 120p. Meanwhile, Halma Investments shed 7p to 83p after a warning on second-half profits.

But on a brighter note, the investment policy change and subdivision of shares pushed Winterbottom Trust 40p higher to 330p while Portals rose 5p to 383p on the back of a £9.75m loan stock rights issue. Figures from AG Barr after hours were well received and the shares added 3p to 128p.

Shares of Amatil appeared nervous ahead of today's figures, losing 3p to 108p. Similarly, McCorquodale slipped 1p to 95p and ERF 1p to 49p. Reporting *later this month*; Allied Colloids fell 7p to 102p and English China Clays 2½p to 86½p. Tate & Lyle closed 4p dearer at 132p.

The appointment of Mr John Nott as Defence Secretary caused a setback among companies with defence contracts. GEC plunged 12p to 603p along with Racal 3p to 328p, Plessey 3p to 266p, AB Electronic 10p to 115p, Ferranti 10p to 450p, Westland 2p to 143p and Hawker Siddeley 6p to 246p. Elsewhere in electricals Thorn EMI eased 11p to 307p ahead of figures due out soon.

Shares of Record Ridgway slipped 9p to 38p upon the announcement that the talks with an anonymous admirer that might have led to a counterbid had broken down. Renwick was another weak market, 11p cheaper at 73p, as the bid from AAH, 2p lower at 178p, lapsed. Rumours of a breakdown in talks between Westminster Property and a possible suitor left the former a shade easier at 35p. But Davy Corp hardened 2p to 170p with more than 1 million shares changing hands as terms from Enserch Corp begin to look more attractive.

Shares of that old bid favourite Owen Owen rose 8p to 116p yesterday as a large buyer mopped up 25,000 shares in a thin and sensitive market. This again set tongues wagging about the possibility of an imminent bid. But with the shares tightly held by the family concern, close observers believe a bid remains out of the question.

A broker's circular had Bunzl Pulp & Paper 6p stronger at 116p and speculative attention lifted Saatchi & Saatchi 9p to 260p, but fading bid hopes left Wm Collins 8p lighter at 133p.

The recent warning of a cut in the final dividend had Grattan Warehouses 4p lower at 56p in stores, while in foods the bumper Christmas had Cullens 'A' up 8p at 156p; Hillards 5p higher at 191p and Wm Morrison up 3p at 188p. J. Sainsbury was unchanged at 388p and Avana Group tumbled 8p to 238p.

With lots of pre-Christmas stock remaining on offer oils continued to drift amid persistent small selling. Among the majors BP fell 4p to 408p, Shell 4p to 454p, Ultramar 9p to 515p, Lasmo 10p to 717p and Tricentrol 6p to 332p.

Equity turnover on January 5 was £70.086m (13,646 bargains). The most active stocks, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were GEC, Shell, RTZ, Plessey, Glaxo, Grattan Warehouses, Hanson Trust, ICI, Imperial Group, Barclays Bank, Midland Bank, Ultramar, Imperial Continental Gas, Allied Breweries and Charterhall.

Traded options had a better day with 1,343 contracts. Lonrho, Grand Metropolitan, Racal, BP and Shell where the most active, with most other classes also seeing some trade.

Traditional options were quiet again, with calls arranged in Floyd Oil at 18p, Premier at 11p and Westminster Properties at 4½p. There were no puts.

Latest results

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Brit Cinematogrph (I)	1.9(1.77)	0.01(0.05)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Brown & Tawse (I)	26.5(28.5)	1.03(2.07)	4.8(9.8)	1.4(1.4)	6/4	—(6.4)
Halma (I)	7.1(5.4)	0.67(0.6)	2.19(1.95)	0.62(0.52)	16/2	—(1.35)
Hartley (I)	0.22(0.35*)	0.02(0.026)	0.58(0.75)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Wrighton Int (I)	4.69(4.64)	1.18†(0.06)	0.04(1.34)	—(—)	—	—(1.08)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere is Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. * For nine months. † Loss.

Brown & Tawse slumps as destocking continues

By Rosemary Unsworth

Brown & Tawse, the steel stockholding and engineering group, said that destocking in the industry was continuing after last year's steel strike as it reported a £1m decline in pretax profits at the interim stage.

With turnover slipping from £28.5m to £26.5m, pretax profits went from £2.1m to £1m in the six months to September 30. Interest charges increased slightly from £375,000 to £389,000 during the period, although the group expects that by April, 1982 it will not be paying any interest at all as the cash position improves constantly with continuing destocking.

By the end of the current year Brown & Tawse probably will have interest charges at a similar level to last year's £800,000. Reserves will improve by £6m this year with the removal of the possibility of clawback of previous years' tax relief on stock increases under the Government's proposals for tax *changes in stock relief*.

This improvement, coupled with the strong cash balance, has prompted the maintainence of the interim dividend at 2p.

Mr Douglas Rae, the chairman, says that demand for steel and tube products has been very weak throughout the first half, and as the recession has deepened, there has been a further decline. Plant sales and hire have also suffered a decrease in profits from a lack of demand in the construction industry.

However, sales of equipmen[t] from Europe have benefite[d] from the strength of sterlin[g] as the German mark and th[e] French franc have depreciate[d] by 20 per cent against th[e] pound in the last 12 months. *Mr Rae added that althoug[h]* the next three months woul[d] continue to be tough for th[e] group, it was hoping for a stee[l] price increase in April—th[e] first for 18 months and at th[e] moment steel prices in Europ[e] appear to be hardening.

Brown & Tawse is als[o] making plans for furthe[r] acquisitions. Last August i[t] acquired a stainless stee[l] cutting company in Rotherha[m] of which it was a creditor.

Bass Charrington sells Bordeaux wine interests

Bass Charrington yesterday announced the sale of its French wine interests, Alexis *Lichine, the Bordeaux wine* merchants, after two years of negotiations.

Britain's largest brewer sold the concern to two private buyers, M Bernard Gans, president of the French Brewers Association, and the president of the Bordeaux Chateau Wine Producers Association.

The Lichine company, which had been acquired from Alexis Lichine in 1965, only just broke even in the past few years' trading, said Mr Leslie Toogood, operations director at Bass. "Whether we are running a casino or a brewery we aim to keep profit standards," *he added.*

Last year, Lichine, which owns two vineyards and employs 130 people, recorded sales of £8.3m. Exports, with the United States as the largest customer, account for 75 per cent of sales of the high quality chateaux wines. Its ten-year import contract with a member of the United States Northon Simon group will be transferred to the new owners.

The sale leaves Bass' French interests with two other vineyards.

Optimism as Halma improves

By Our Financial Staff

Halma, the safety system an[d] specialist engineering group, h[as] remained relatively recessio[n] proof, reporting 12 per ce[nt] improvement in profits at th[e] half-way stage.

Turnover increased by 31 p[er] cent to £7.1m and pretax pr[o]fits rose from £607,000 [to] £678,000 in the 26 weeks [to] September 27.

Direct exports from th[e] United Kingdom came to £1.1[m] an increase of 56 per cent. Tw[o]

Mr David Barber, chairman **Halma.**

operations, the shoe machine[ry] and acoustic silencers, whi[ch] are used in offices, were p[ar]ticularly resilient, said [Mr] David Barber, the chairman.

"Whilst it appears unlik[ely] that the profit during t[he] second half will equal t[he] record levels achieved in t[he] comparable period last year [I] am confident that the group w[ill] continue to produce results b[et]ter than the average achie[ved] by United Kingdom industr[y]," Mr Barber said.

Briefly

Singlo Group: As a result of conversion of preference shares, Caparo Group *now holds 5.31m* shares (24.3 per cent). Mr D. M. Slocock, director, has acquired £23,000 15 per cent convertible loan stock 1984 and 50,000 ordinary. Mr D. J. K. Wadham, a director, has acquired £2,000 15 per cent convertible loan stock 1984.

Bremar Trust: *Of the 2.4m share* rights issue, 2.33m (97.13 per cent) shares have been taken up by shareholders. Remaining 69,000 shares have been sold at a premium for the benefit of entitled shareholders.

Sterling Credit Group: On December 31, Dewey Warren and Co, *a subsidiary of Sterling*, disposed of the whole of its interest in Dewey Warren underwriting agencies to R. A. F. Macmillan and Co, and its associates for £15,000 cash. This disposal showed a surplus over the book value of the investment of £3,825.

Edbro (Holdings): Noble Grossart has acquired the holding of 948,000 shares from the executors of the late Mr S. H. Gardiner (11.42 per cent). The shares will be registered in name of Bank of Scotland Central Nominees.

Tarmac: Subsidiary, Tarmac Roadstone Holdings, has completed purchase from Francis Parker of Francis Aggregates. Price is £1m. Tarmac have also discharged term and other loans due from aggregates to its bankers amounting to about £4.5m.

Hartley Industrial Trust: Turnover for six months to September 30, £226,500 (£350,000) for nine months to December 31, 1979. Pretax profit £21,000 (£27,000). Eps before extraordinary items *0.58p* (0.75p).

Manganese Bronze Holdings: Elections to receive new shares in lieu of cash in respect of the final dividend for year to July 31, have been received from 904 out of a total of 2,273 shareholders, holding 6.81m out of a total of 10.62m *shares. Accordingly*, 591,000 new ordinary shares have been allotted to shareholders. Thus 64.13 per cent of the dividend will be paid in the form of new shares.

Pentos has sold its subsidiary F. F. Allsopp to a consortium of investors which includes the two present executive directors of FFA, Messrs J. Loach and S. Wardle. Consideration for sale is net asset value of FFA shown by its balance sheet as at December 31.

Redman Heenan: "Despite measures to control expenditure and cut capacity, it is already clear that financial results of group for first half of 1980-81 will show a reduction and it would seem unlikely that demand will recover sufficiently in time for position to be restored by year-end." Mr Angus Murray, chairman says.

Winterbottom Trust to specialize in energy

By Margaret Stone

Shareholders in the £21.6m Winterbottom Trust will be asked early next month to agree to proposals to transform the orthodox investment trust company into a specialist fund concentrating on oil and energy *shares. It is to be renamed the* Winterbottom Energy Trust.

Managed by Baillie, Gifford, the trust's metamorphosis has already begun. In November 1979, 25 per cent of the fund's assets were in energy issues; a year later this had increased to 41 per cent, and by the end of 1980 half the portfolio was in the energy sector — particularly United States shares. To some extent this is already reflected in the trust's performance, up 62 per cent in net asset value in the last two years.

Although shareholder approval is not technically essential for the change of direction, the matter is being put to shareholders not least because of the substantial dividend reduction that will be involved. In the last financial year the fund's distribution was 14.3p gross per share; next year this is likely to drop to around 4.3p gross.

Mr Stanley Field, the chairman, said yesterday that the likely reduction in dividend was "a justifiable price to pay in view of the prospective total return". At the moment, Winterbottom's shares stand at a discount of some 25 per cent compared with the 4 to 5 per cent discount enjoyed by the other specialist energy investment trusts.

Winterbottom Trust, with total assets of only £21.6m is sufficiently small, the managers hope, to benefit from a specialized investment policy. In addi*tion the managers will be pro*posing a 1-for-4 scrip issue at the annual meeting in April.

Dutch-German steel group forecasts further losses

The depressed market for crude steel and steel products will mean further losses for Estel this year, Mr Jan Hooglandt, director of the Dutch-German steel group, said.

Overcapacity in the European steel sector and declining demand have forced Estel to concentrate on developing a few "core" activities and to channel energy into improving the group's liquidity.

Estel has not yet published results for the whole of 1980, but it earlier announced first nine months' pretax losses of Fl267.4m (about £53m), of which Fl152.4m were in the third quarter with no improvement expected in the final quarter. It made a 1979 net loss of Fl173.7m.

International

Naarden cautious

Naarden International, the Dutch chemicals and fragrances company, said that its net profit for 1980 would be higher than the Fl2.7m (£540,000) *earned in 1979 but said that* 1981 could be a difficult year.

Mr J. P. Guepin, the chairman, said that Naarden was better prepared to face international trading difficulties after the recent restructuring measures.

Hongkong issue

Hongkong's Mass Transit Railway Corp (MTR) is issuing *HK50m (£4.2m)* of 87-day commercial paper, Barclays Asia, the lead manager, said.

Barclays declined to give the coupon rate of the notes, but said they are now the railway's only outstanding short-term paper.

Dreher lower

Dreher, the Italian beer company controlled by Heineken, recorded a net profit of 1,300m lire (£59.000), in the year to September 30, down from 2,200m lire the previous year.

Dreher emphasized that the profit was achieved after putting the maximum allowed amount to depreciation funds.

Renwick to meet holders of big stake

By Philip Robinson

Financial advisers to the Renwick Group are expected to meet later this week with the men behind Hongkong-based Kangra International Holdings, *whose buying of a sizable stake* in the fuel distribution and travel agents group has attracted the attention of the Takeover Panel.

The offer of the meeting was confirmed yesterday by Kangra's London-based stockbrokers, A. J. Bekhor, as the AAH group announced it was dropping its £7.3m takeover bid for Renwick launched last October, and accepted by holders of 21.12 per cent of the Renwick stock.

Mr William Pybus, chairman *of AAH, said the board* was letting the bid lapse because of the low level of acceptances and the substantial holdings which had been built up at significantly higher levels than its own 65p a share offer.

Kangra, an off-the-shelf *private company* formed last April which changed to its present name in August, staged a market raid on December 23, mopping up just under 15 per cent of Renwick for £1.1m.

On Monday, as AAH was counting acceptances for its bid, Kangra announced it had bought a further 350,000 Renwick shares at 85p.

Mr Pybus said: "That purchase finally convinced us that we should pull out. We are disappointed. It was an agreed bid and both companies were enthusiastic about it."

AAH and Renwick still have substantial trading agreements. AAH yesterday sold 250,000 Renwick shares, believed to have gone to a jobber who sold short on Kangra buying, but it is retaining a strategic stake of just over 10 per cent.

Mr Pybus added: "It could give us a useful bargaining position."

Renwick shares dropped 11p to 73p last night. Mr Kenneth Holmes, chairman of Renwick, said: "I am disappointed that AAH has pulled out. There was *industrial logic in the move for* both companies. But our next priority must be to find out who owns these large slices of our shares."

No counter-bidder for Record

Shares of Record Ridgway tumbled sharply from their year's peak yesterday as the Sheffield tool maker announced that the unnamed rival bidder expected to reveal itself by now, has withdrawn.

The price dropped 9p to 39p, although it remains 2p higher than the takeover offer announced three weeks ago by the Swedish group Bahco. First *closing date for the £4m* bid is next Wednesday.

Record's chief executive Mr Mark Alexander said last week that he was expecting the counter-bid to become formal by either yesterday evening or this morning.

He said last night: "I am as surprised that they have pulled out as I was that they approached me." Mr Alexander was told by the bidders, who still wish to remain anonymous, on Monday evening that they were not proceeding.

However the stock market appears to be convinced that a further rival is waiting in the wings. The price is still precluding Bahco—unless they want to increase their offer—from buying shares in the market.

Wrighton loss after tripled interest charge

F. Wrighton & Sons, made a £180,000 pretax loss in its first half to September 30 against a £60,000 profit; but had a £134,000 tax credit. Interest costs tripled to £134,000.

Borrowings, which were £1.5m net at the year-end, rose with the group's relocation to Nazeing from Walthamstow. The move will be completed next month and benefits should show in 1981-82. Meanwhile, demand is still weak. Interim sales were little changed at £4.7m.

Ransome Hoffman faces hard time

Ransome Hoffman Pollard's chairman has warned shareholders in his annual statement that 1980-81 results will suffer significantly from the present bleak economic climate, notably in the first part, to end-March.

Profits from the United Kingdom, the group's biggest market, will fall steeply unless orders improve. But the electrical interests are expected to keep up their contribution. In 1979-80 the group made £11m pretax.

No move by Caparo in CMT bid

Yesterday's news that only a handful of acceptances were received for Hanson Trust's £13m bid for Central Manufacturing & Trading has not prompted any new advances from Caparo.

Caparo, the private investment company which holds the largest stake of 19.5 per cent in CMT, has still not decided whether to mount a rival bid for the engineering group. Caparo hopes to have further information on CMT's current trading figures by the end of the week before taking any decisions. Hanson's offer of 49p a share was accepted by 202,000 shareholders out of the total 26m and it has extended the date until January 26.

Fall at British Cinematograph

Although turnover of British Cinematograph Theatres rose from £1.77m to £1.9m in the six months to July 31, pretax profits fell from £50,000 to £13,000. No rental or development costs in respect of a computer installed in March are included, these will be dealt within the full year.

There has been continued pressure on gross profit margins and higher expenses resulted in a substantial fall in the trading profit of Dollands Photographic. The group is in a strong financial position and the board "would hope to maintain" the dividend.

Ladbroke sells casino for £4.5m

The last of the five Ladbro[ke] casinos in Birmingham was ye[s]terday sold to the Glasgo[w] based Reo Stakis Organizati[on] for £4.5m. The deal we[nt] through after the Birmingha[m] City Licensing Committ[ee] agreed to renew the licen[ce] and its transfer to Patmore, [a] *subsidiary of Stakis.*

Three local casino operat[ors] who had been granted leave [to] object to the application we[re] ordered to pay £2,800 le[gal] costs by the licensing comm[it]tee.

A G Barr ahead for year despite poor summer

By Margareta Pagano

The Scottish soft drinks *manufacturer A. G. Barr has* recorded a marginal increase in pretax profits despite the poor summer and the recession.

Profits for the year to October were £2.56m against £2.52m, on turnover which rose 16 per cent to £28.8m. A final dividend of 5.14p gross is recommended, making a total for the year of 6.9p gross compared with 6.07p last year. Profits include an interest credit of £356,000, against £155,000, and an extraordinary credit of £187,000. Tax charges took £560,000. The shares *gained 3p to 128p on the news.*

Mr Robin Barr, the chairman, said expanding turnover and satisfactory margins were difficult to achieve with the continuing recession, but one helpful factor was that con*tainer prices were being held* down.

With the second half of the year traditionally giving higher sales and profits, the poor weather last summer meant a downturn in expected sales. The group, which produces "Tizer" and "Irn Bru" brands, however, has maintained its market share despite the decline in demand seen in particular parts of the country.

Since the group's products are a "cheap luxury" it is happy that it has been able to maintain sales at a time of unemployment and short-time working, Mr Barr says.

In the last year £3m was budgeted for plant equipment and modernization work.

Wholesale Prices

Indices (1975=100) of wholesale prices of manufacturing goods and the basic materials and fuels purchased by manufacturing industry, published by the Department of Industry yesterday

	Output prices (home sales) (1)	Prices of materials and fuels (2)	% Change in previous 6 months at an annual rate of (1)	(2)
1979				
Dec	183.4	187.5	15.2	26.7
1980				
Jan	188.5	193.5	16.3	32.4
Feb	191.5	197.6	18.0	36.6
March	194.3	200.4	19.0	35.1
April	197.0	202.3	19.5	28.4
May	199.0	200.4	20.2	18 2
June	201.0	201.1	20.1	15.3
July	202.7	201.7	15.7	8.8
Aug	203.5	201.8	13.1	3.8
Sept	204.6	202.1	10.9	1.7
Oct	205.4	201.4	8.7	0.9
Nov	206.1	203.3	7.3	2 9
Dec	206.6	205.7	5.7	4.6

BANK FIGURES

Figures for eligible liabilities and reserve asset ratios of United Kingdom banks released by the Bank of England yesterday.

	Eligible liabilities £000m	Rose over 3 months at annual rate	Reserve asset ratio
1979			
Dec	51,647	13.2	13.3
1980			
Jan	52,937	13.5	13.2
Feb	52.886	4.9	13.2
March	52.779	9.0	13.1
April	54,297	10.8	13.2
May	55,216	19.0	13.1
June	56,455	30.9	13.0
July	61.457	64.6	13.2
Aug	63.137	71 0	13.2
Sept	63,441	59.5	13.4
Oct	65.275	27.3	13.0
Nov	66,003	19.4	13.6
Dec	67,455	27.8	13.5

The Over-the-Counter Market

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div(p)	Yld %	P/E
75	39	Airsprung Group	63	+1	6.7	10.6	5.7
39	21	Armitage & Rhodes	33	—	1.4	4.2	13.6
192	92½	Bardon Hill	189	—	9.7	5.1	7.1
87	48	County Cars Pref	48	−2	7.6	15.8	—
98	88	Deborah Ord	96	—	5.5	5.7	4.8
126	88	Frank Horsell	120	—	7.9	6.6	3.8
110	60	Frederick Parker	60	—	11.0	18.3	2.7
110	74	George Blair	76	—	3.1	4.0	—
109	59	Jackson Group	109	—	6.9	6.3	4.1
124	103	James Burrough	122	—	7.9	6.5	10.0
327	244	Robert Jenkins	327	+2	31.3	9.6	—
53	50	Scruttons "A"	53	—	5.3	10.0	3.8
224	216	Torday Limited	221	—	15.1	6.8	3.8
23	10	Twinlock Ord	14	—	—	—	—
90	69	Twinlock 15% ULS	80	—	15.0	18.7	—
56	35	Unilock Holdings	37	—	3.0	8.1	3.8
102	81	Walter Alexander	102	—	5.7	5.5	[illegible]
255	181	W. S. Yeates	253	—	12.1	4.8	4.1

New Life Business

Yorkshire-General, the life company of General Accident, report their highest-ever reversionary bonus rates on United Kingdom with-profit contracts at December 31, 1980. The principle rates in the current series of policies are:—

Life policies, £6.50 per cent simple (previously £5.60 per cent).

Self-employed pension plans and single premium group schemes, £8.00 per cent compound (£6.80 *per cent*).

English Insurance: English Insurance Co wrote record new business in 1980 under which the net premium income reached £9.4m (£7.3m), in addition to single premiums and immediate annuity considerations of £8.6m (£7.15m). The benefits secured were net sums assured of £1,096m (£827m); widows' death-in-service annuities pa, £19.25m (£18.35m); net deferred annuities pa, £16.15m (£13.8m) and net immediate annuities pa, £1.55m (£1.16m).

Refuge Assurance: Ordinary branch: Annual premiums, £4.13m (£3.86m). Single premiums, £500,000 (£723,000). Sums assured, £119.4m (£109.56m). Annuities per annum, £1.46m (£903,000).

Industrial branch: Premiums, £11.12m (£9.57m*) Sums assured, £141.6m (£126.94m). *Gross of life assurance premium relief.

Pearl Assurance: Total new annual premiums under life assurance policies and annuities issued in the industrial and ordinary branches combined, £43.9m (1979, £40.4m). In *addition, single premiums* and annuity considerations of £11.9m were received (1979, £20.4m). These new premiums provide for total new sums assured of £880m (1979, £842m) and annuities per annum of £25.9m (1979, £21.2m). In the ordinary branch the new annual premiums amount to £16.0m (1979, £16.0m) and new sums assured to £531m (1979, £534m) In the industrial branch the new annual premiums amount to £27.9m (1979, £24.4m) and the *new sums assured to £349m (1979,* £308m).

Norwich Union: Norwich Union Life made further progress in 1980 with world-wide sales of life insurance at the record levels of £64m new annual premiums (1979—£63m) and £59m single premiums (1979—£38m). In the United Kingdom where nearly 80 per cent of the *Norwich Union's* life business originates, the vast majority being introduced through brokers and other professional intermediaries, new annual premiums exceeded £50m, but were slightly down on last year. Single premiums increased to £53m (1979—£31m), the big increase coming from annuities, where Norwich Union have continued preferential terms to their own policy-holders on top of very competitive rates. Sixty per cent of the business is now pensions.

Royal Insurance: In 1980 net new annual premiums increased by 4 per cent to £25.9m (1979 £25.0m). Net new single premiums increased by 7 per cent to £21.9m (1979 £20.5m). In the United Kingdom, a reduction in business associated with house purchase was offset by a substantial increase in the sale of other with profit endowment and whole life policies. Despite the recession, there was an increase in pension scheme business but sales of individual pension arrangements was below the high level achieved last year. There was a small increase in self-employed pensions business.

Business appointments

Deputy chairman for Bowthorpe Holdings

Mr Mervyn Grubb has joined the board of Bowthorpe Holdings as full-time executive deputy chairman.

Mr J. E. Barber has been made *director and general manager of* the military products division of Fairey Engineering.

Mr William Bruce is now group deputy chairman of Barratt Developments. In addition, two new directors joining the main board are Mr Kenneth A. Janes and Mr Dale Stuard. Mr Janes has also been made chairman of Barratt *Developments (Midlands). Mr* Terry Van Ree, a main board director, becomes chairman of Barratt Developments (Northern England) and Mr Michael Norton is now deputy chairman. Mr Geoffrey Smith has been made managing director of Barratt Developments (Bristol).

Eight joining the board of John Laing Construction are: Mr H. K. Barnett, Mr J. D. Bottom, Mr T. W. Fleming, Mr P. E. K. Horrell, Mr P. Johnson, Mr J. F. Meddins, Mr J. R. Walton and Mr G. O. Whitehead.

Mr R. S. Fulford is the new group chief executive of United Gas Industries. He succeeds Mr N. P. White, who will remain on the board as deputy chairman with responsibility for the group's overseas operations until his retirement later this year.

Mr John Hucle has been made financial director of Eurotherm International.

Mr Brian G. Hill has joined the board of the Scottish Life Assurance Company.

Mr A. E. Hepper has become a non-executive director of Richardsons, Westgarth & Company.

Mr R. B. Arthurton has been made an executive director of Willis Faber & Dumas (UK).

Mr D. M. Sandy Saunders has been appointed a non-executive director of RCF Holdings.

Sir Philip Southwell has relinquished the presidency of Brown and Root (UK) and the chairmanship of Brown and Root-Wimpey Highland Fabricators.

Mr R. H. Lamb has become chairman of Fairey Holdings in succession to Mr Angus Murray who remains on the board as deputy chairman.

Mr Alan G. Pendleton has become joint managing director of West Group International. Dr Geoffrey H. Davenport has been appointed chief executive of the new industrial division and managing director of West's Industrial Holdings, the new sub-holding company. Mr David A. Northam *succeeds Dr Davenport as managing director of DSF Refractories.* Other new appointments within this division include Mr John Catterall as managing director and Mr Frederick J. Williamson as financial director and secretary of Tully Engineering Co. Mr Brian G. Ward has been appointed managing director and Mr Don Fagan a director of WGI Security Systems. Mr Malcolm O. Dorrington has been made a director of Intrusion Prepakt (UK).

Sir Montague Prichard has become deputy chairman of Tozer Kemsley and Millbourn (Holdings) and Mr Malcolm Horsman its managing director.

Mr R. W. Parsons and Mr L. A. W. Evans have been made directors of Grindlays Bank.

Sir John Cuckney has been appointed chairman of Brooke Bond Liebig and Mr Peter Sawdy is the new deputy chairman in addition to his existing appointment as chief executive. Sir Humphrey Prideaux, former chairman, has retired from the board.

Mr E. B. G. Clowes, chairman and chief executive of Target Life Assurance Company, has also been appointed chairman and chief executive of Target Trust Managers. Mr M. H. A. Broke and Mr P. A. Hill-Walker are also joining the Target Trust Managers board.

Mr Alan Ford, the actuary to Hambro Life, intends leaving the company when his service agreement comes to an end on June 30, 1981. His place will be taken by the deputy actuary, Mr Phil Smith, who has been appointed as an executive director.

Mr R. S. Harryman is now personnel director of Procter & Gamble.

Mr R. G. Stone has become departmental director of Winchester Bowring and Mr P. J. Rand is now assistant director.

Mr I. C. Black has been appointed a director of Wilson (Connolly) Holdings.

Mr Leonard Wood is now a director of Heavitree Brewery.

Two additional directors appointed by Dalgety are Mr D. H. Henderson and Mr R. B. Vaughan.

Mr D. A. Nice has been appointed a director of Allebone and Sons.

Mr W. Donald Marr becomes the sole manager of the First Scottish American Trust Company and the Northern American Trust Company after the retirement of Mr A. K. Aitkenhead as joint manager of both companies. Mr Marr who is already a director of the First Scottish American Trust Company, has also been elected to the board of the Northern American Trust Company in place of Sir Herbert Bonar who has retired.

Mr Kenneth Wilkinson is now chairman of the Air Transport and Travel Industry Training Board.

Mr David Morton has been elected president of the Aluminium Federation for 1981. His successor as vice-president is Mr Arthur S. Coult hard.

The directors of Royal Insurance (UK), the recently-formed operating company responsible for general business in the United Kingdom, are: Mr J. J. Howard (chairman), The Hon John F. H. Baring, Mr F. E. Goosey, Mr J. N. H. Hay, Mr A. A. Horsford, Ms S. D. McGeorge, Mr D. Meinertzhagen, Mr D. J. Warbrick, Mr J. Williamson. Mr Meinertzhagen and Mr Baring are chairman and a deputy chairman respectively of Royal Insurance Co (the holding company). Mr Howard, Mr Hay and Mr Horsford are all executive *directors of the* holding company; Mr Warbrick is a deputy general manager of the holding company. Mr Williamson is general manager and Mr Goosey is deputy general manager of Royal Insurance (UK) and Mr McGeorge is general manager, British Engine Insurance, a subsidiary of Royal Insurance (UK). Mr W. Scanlan, an assistant general manager of Royal Insurance (UK), is company secretary.

MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

COPPER closed firmer yesterday.—Afternoon.—Cash wire bars, £812-15.00 a metric ton; three months, £835.80-36. Sales, 8,300. Cash cathodes, £791-93.00; three months, £814-14.50. Sales, 50 tons. Morning.—Cash wire bars, £800.50-1.50; three months, £825.50-26.00. Settlement, £801.50. Sales, 19,850 tons. Cash cathodes, £781.50-82; three months, £805.50-6.00. Settlement, £782.00. Sales, 1,500 tons.

TIN.—Standard tin was steady.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £6,230-40 a tonne; three months, £6,345-50. Sales, 305 tonnes. High grade, cash, £6,230-40; three months, £6,350-60. Sales, nil tonnes. Morning.—Standard, cash, £6,240-45; three months £6,34-50. Settlement, £6,245. Sales, 850 tonnes. High grade, £6,240-50; three months, £6,350-60. Settlement, £6,250. Sales, nil tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works rose by 49 cents to 32.76 ringgit per kilo.

LEAD was firm.—Afternoon.—Cash, £323-24.00 per tonne; three months, £335-36.00. Sales, 8,325 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £316-17.00; three months, £327.50-28. Settlement, £317.00. Sales, 4,800 tonnes.

ZINC closed steadier.—Afternoon.—Cash, £335-36.00 per tonne; three months, £347.50-48.00. Sales, 2,750 tonnes. Morning.—Cash £333-34.00; three months £345-45.50. Settlement, £334.00. Sales, 6,550 tonnes.

PLATINUM was at £242.75 ($594.00) a troy ounce.

SILVER was steady.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot, 671.20p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 1,630.30); three months, 695.70p (1,690.60c); six months, 720.70p (1,763.20c); one year, 768.20p (1,872.40c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 682.5-85.5p; three months, 707-8.0p. Sales, 32 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 676-77.0p; three months, 700-700.5p. Settlement, 677.0p. Sales, 41 lots.

ALUMINIUM closed steadier.—Afternoon.—Cash, £612-14.00 per tonne; three months, £629.50-30.50. Sales, 3,025 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £608-9.00; three months, £626-27.00. Settlement, £609.00. Sales, 4,400 tonnes.

NICKEL was quiet.—Afternoon.—Cash, £2,695-2,700 per tonne; three months, £2,680-90. Sales, 18 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £2,670-80; three months, £2,670-80. Settlement, £2,680. Sales, 72 tonnes.

RUBBER closed steady (pence per kilo).—Feb, 56.30-56.70; March, 59.20-59.00; April, June, 61.30-61.40; July, Sept, 64.60-64.70; Oct, Dec, 67.80-67.90; Jan, March, 70.90-71.10; April, June, 74.00-74.10; July, Sept, 77.00-77.20; Oct, Dec, 80.10-80.30. Sales: four at five tonnes and 331 at 15 tonnes.

RUBBER PHYSICALS were steadier.—Spot: 55.50-56.50. Cif's: Feb., 60.00-60.75; March 61.00-61.75.

COFFEE.—ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne): Jan, 1,012-14; March, 1,037-40; May, 1,049-50; July, 1,055-60; Sept, 1,063-64; Nov, 1,060-75; Jan, 1,070-85. Sales: 3,409 lots, including 275 options. **ARABICA** (officials at 16.45): Feb, 135.00-45.00; April, 138.00-46.00; June, 140.00-53.00; Aug, 138.00-58.00; Oct, 138.00-63.00; Dec, 138.00-65.00; Feb, 138.00-66.00. Sales: nil.

COCOA was steady (£ per metric ton).—March, 882-83; May, 907-08; July, 928-30; Sept, 947-48; Dec, 972-73; March, 995-96; May, 1,010-20. Sales: 1,000 lots.

SUGAR.—The London daily price of "raws" was £15.00 higher at £315; the "whites" price was £20.00 higher at £343. Futures (£ per tonne): March, 324.25-24.50; May, 321.50-21.75; Aug, 306.50-08.00; Oct, 290.00-92.00; Jan, 263.00-68.00; March, 260.00-62.00; May, 256.00-60.00. Closing tone: steady.—ISA prices (Jan 5): daily, 31.07c; 15-day average 28.92c.

SOYABEAN MEAL was quiet (£ per tonne).—Feb, 129.50-30.30; April, 135.00-35.20; June, 137.00-38.50; Aug, 139.50-40.50; Oct, 129.50-31.00; Dec, 129.50-32.00; Feb, 130.00-33.00. Sales: 48 lots.

WOOL.—NZ Crossbreds, No 2 contract cent. per kilo (quiet).—Jan, 348-360; March, 358-364; May, 359-366; Aug, 372-379; Oct, 374-381; Dec, 380-385; Jan, 380-385; March, 382-387; May, 382-387. Sales: Four lots.

GRAIN (The Baltic).—**WHEAT.**—Canadian western red spring, unquoted. US dark northern spring, No 2, 14 per cent: Feb, £110.75; March, £111.50 trans-shipment east coast sellers. US hard winter, 13½ per cent: Feb, £106.00; March, £106.75 trans-shipment east coast sellers. EEC, unquoted. English feed, fob: unquoted.

MAIZE.—US.—French: first-half, Jan, £119.75; second-half, Jan, £120.25; first-half, Feb, £121.5 east coast sellers. S African white, unquoted. S African yellow: Feb-March, £89.50.

BARLEY.—English feed, fob: Jan, £101 seller; Feb, £101.75 paid; March, £103.25 seller. All per tonne cif UK unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta). EEC origin.—**BARLEY** was easy.—Jan, £95.10; March £98.45; May, £102.50; Sept, £96.20; Nov, £99.90. Sales: 276 lots. **WHEAT** was easy.—Jan, £103.35; March, £106.85; May, £110.90; July, £114.95; Sept, £101.05; Nov, £104.75. Sales: 402 lots.

Home-Grown Cereals Authority.—Location ex-farm spot prices:

	Other milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
S East	—	£101.40	£94.10
S West	—	—	£95.10
W Midlands	—	£100.20	£92.70
N West	£104.80	£101.00	£95.30

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on Jan 6: GB: Cattle, 82.68p per kg lw (+1.54). UK: Sheep, 141.37p per kg est dcw (−12.32). GB: Pigs, 65.86p per kg lw (−1.33). England and Wales: Cattle numbers down 23.5 per cent, ave price, 82.70p (+1.49). Sheep numbers up 15.4 per cent, ave price, 140.01p (−13.26). Pig numbers down 5.3 per cent, ave price, 65.62p (−1.53). Scotland: Cattle numbers down 11.0 per cent, ave price, 82.58p (+1.80). Sheep numbers down 37.8 per cent, ave price, 146.93p (−8.76). Pig numbers up 172.8 per cent, ave price, 68.03p (−0.26).

POTATOES (Gafta): Feb, £52.70; April, £67.40; Nov, £51.70. Sales, 70 lots (of 40 tonnes each).

TEA: Packages sold at Monday's sale totalled 51,047, London tea brokers reported.

Selected brighter Assam was fully firm to dearer, with plainer sorts very irregular and often 2p to 6p per kilo easier. Broken tea was weak.

Brighter African CTCs were firm to dearer, with dusts strong. Medium opened firm, but tender lower on the close. Plain Central African gained 4p to 6p a kilo.

There was good demand for Ceylon at very firm rates and South Indian also sold well with prices tending higher.

USDA world coffee forecasts

World coffee production and exports in the 1980-81 season will be virtually the same as last year, the United States Department of Agriculture forecasts. It says production could be 80.2m bags, compared with an estimated 80.4m in 1979-80 and exports may be 60.2m bags, against 60.6m.

Brazil, the world's biggest producer, could raise output from 21.5m bags at present to between 27m and 29m bags. But total South American production is estimated at 37.7m bags, a fall of 600,000 bags from 1979-80 and less than the earlier estimates for the 1980-81 season.

With production at these levels, it seems likely that the International Coffee Organization will be successful in defending its price range of 115-155 cents.

Mergers cleared: Following proposed mergers are not to be referred to the Monopolies Commission. Brooke Bond Liebig—Mallinson Denny; Unigate—Giltspur; Guest Keen and Nettlefolds and Brambles Industries—Redland Purle.

Discount market

Money was in ample supply yesterday and the authorities siphoned-off a large sum by selling Treasury bills to the banks and discount houses. Rates at one stage had briefly flicked up to 13¾ per cent, but with a surplus soon in prospect, houses were able to make considerable progress with bids for overnight money at 12¾ per cent. Books were finally ruled off within bounds of 10½ and 11½ per cent.

Foreign exchange report

After fluctuating within fairly wide extremes yesterday, sterling eventually settled for a 140-point gain at $2.4255, compared with $2.4115 overnight. The pound's trade-weighted index at its final calculation was 79.0 (after 79.3 at the opening) against 78.8 at Monday's close. Initially, the pound reflected an overnight decline in the dollar on Far Eastern and Transatlantic centres, reaching $2.4335, but it drifted lower subsequently on light profit-taking, before dropping to $2.4185 during the afternoon following the latest bank lending statistics which indicate a slow-down in next week's money supply.

Encouraging Wholesale Price Index figures for December also helped sentiment. At the close, however, news of a 19½ per cent prime rate by Chemical Bank of the United States brought about a fresh decline in the dollar, so sterling, in common with other key currencies, moved up again.

The yen was actively traded in, opening on a firm note before ending on offer at 199.60 (198.75). There was a pfennig fluctuation in the D-mark, which closed stronger at 1.9325 (1.9375).

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) January 6	Market rates (close) January 6	1 month	3 months
New York	$2.4150-4350	$2.4250-4260	.85-.95c disc	1.40-1.50c disc
Montreal	$2.8730-8935	$2.8800-8820	.85-1.05c disc	1.50-1.70c disc
Amsterdam	5.07½-12fl	5.08½-10½fl	3-2c prem	6¾-5¾c prem
Brussels	75.20-75f	75.40-50f	22-12c prem	38-28c prem
Copenhagen	14.39-47k	14.46-47k	240-85ore prem	25-215ore disc
Dublin	1.2600-2685p	1.2620-2630p	12-6p prem	25-17p prem
Frankfurt	4.68½-71m	4.68-69m	2½-1½pf prem	6¾-5¾pf prem
Lisbon	126.50-129.00e	126.95-127.45e	20 prem-50c disc	50 prem-145c disc
Madrid	189.10-192.40p	191.10-35p	60prem-70c disc	10prem-125c disc
Milan	2225-35lr	2230½-32½lr	4-7lr disc	19-22lr disc
Oslo	12.34-46k	12.40-41k	445-295ore prem	1165-990ore prem
Paris	10.81½-89f	10.84¾-85¾f	4-3c prem	7¼-6¼c prem
Stockholm	10.43-53k	10.47½-49k	165-255ore disc	535-650ore disc
Tokyo	480-87y	483-85y	255-185y prem	650-575y prem
Vienna	33.00-40sch	33.25-30sch	12-8gro prem	36-29gro prem
Zurich	4.22-26½f	4.22¾-23¾f	3¼-2¼c prem	9¾-8¾c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to December 21, 1971 was 79.0%, up 0.2%.

Other Markets

Australia	2.0290-2.0440
Bahrein	0.9110-0.9140
Finland	9.2110-9.2510
Greece	109.70-111.75
Hongkong	12.4450-12.4850
Iran	n.a.
Kuwait	.6535-.6565
Malaysia	5.3270-5.3570
Mexico	55.80-57.10
New Zealand	2.4895-2.5095
Saudi Arabia	8.0485-8.0785
Singapore	5.0120-5.0420
South Africa	1.7850-1.8000

Indices

	Bank of England Index	Morgan Guaranty Changes %
Sterling	79.0	−25.7
US dollar	85.2	−6.6
Canadian dollar	79.3	−18.7
Schilling	148.4	+22.7
Belgian franc	111 8	+11.1
Danish kroner	102 2	−7.2
Deutsche mark	147.5	+40.4
Swiss franc	189.9	+78.0
Guilder	123.2	+17.9
French franc	97.5	−7.6
Lira	50.4	−52.6
Yen	146.1	+43.2

Based on trade weighted changes from Washington agreement December, 1971. (Bank of England Index 100).

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.9220-1.9250
† Canada	1.1880-1.1883
Netherlands	2.1005-2.1035
Belgium	31.07-31.10
Denmark	5.9535-5.9585
West Germany	1.9320-1.9330
Portugal	52.55-52.75
Spain	78.38-78.60
Italy	919.25-920.00
Norway	5.1110-5.51160
France	4.4650-4.4670
Sweden	4.3000-4.3300
Japan	199.50-199.70
Austria	13.65-13.75
Switzerland	1.7460-1.7480

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8415-0.8480

EMS Currency Rates

	ECU central rates	currency against ECU	% change from central rate†	% change adjusted†*	divergence limit % plus/minus
Belgian franc	39 7897	41.3314	+3.87	+0.77	1.53
Danish krone	7.7236	7.90474	+2.35	−0.75	1.64
German D-mark	2.48208	2.56425	+3.31	+0.21	1.125
French franc	5.84700	5.93854	+1.57	−1.53	1.3557
Dutch guilder	2.74362	2.79116	+1.73	−1.37	1.512
Irish punt	0.668281	0.691054	+3.42	+0.32	1.665
Italian lira	1157.79	1221.80	+5.53	+2.43	4.08

† changes are for the ECU therefore positive change denotes weak currency.
* adjusted for sterling's weight in the ECU, and for the lira's wider divergence limits.
Adjustment calculated by The Times.

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 19¾-20¼; seven days, 19⅝-19⅞; one month, 18¾-18⅞; three months, 16⅝-16⅞; six months, 15¾-15⅞.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $599.25 (an ounce); pm, $599.25 close, $601.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): $618-620 (£254.50-255.50).
Sovereigns (new): $152-154 (£62.50-63.50).

Money Market Rates

Bank of England MLR 14%
(Last changed 24/11/80)
Clearing Banks Base Rate 14%
Discount Mkt Loans %
Overnight: High 13¾ Low 10¾
Week Fixed: 13½

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	13⅟₁₆	2 months	12¹⁵⁄₁₆
3 months	12¹⁵⁄₁₆	3 months	12⅞

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

2 months	14-13⅞	3 months	14½
3 months	13¹¹⁄₁₆-13⁹⁄₁₆	4 months	14¼
4 months	13½-13⅜	6 months	13¾
6 months	12¹⁵⁄₁₆-12¹³⁄₁₆		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	15½-15¼	7 months	14¼-14
2 months	15¼-15	8 months	14¼-14
3 months	14⅞-14⅝	9 months	14⅜-14⅛
4 months	14⅝-14⅜	10 months	14⅜-14⅛
5 months	14½-14¼	11 months	14⅜-14⅛
6 months	14¼-14	12 months	13⅞-13⅝

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	14⁷⁄₁₆-14⁵⁄₁₆	6 months	13¹³⁄₁₆-13¹¹⁄₁₆
3 months	14¹¹⁄₃₂-14⁷⁄₃₂	12 months	13⅜-13¼

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	14	3 months	14½
7 days	14¼	6 months	14
1 month	14⅜	1 year	13⅝

Interbank Market (%)
Overnight: Open 13¼-13 Close 12

1 week	13⅞-13⅝	6 months	14¼-14
1 month	14½-14¼	9 months	14-13⅞
3 months	14⁹⁄₁₆-14⁷⁄₁₆	12 months	13⅞-13¾

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 15 — 6 months 14⅝

Finance House Base Rate 15½%

Wall Street

New York, Jan 6.—Prices on the New York Stock Exchange closed higher with the index rising 0.06 to 79.14 and the average price per share three cents. The Dow Jones industrial average jumped 12.03 points to 1,004.69, its best level since September 27, 1976 when it closed at 1,013.13. Advances led declines 1,045 to 643 as volume swelled to 67,400,000 shares from 58,700,000 yesterday.

The market opened on a strong note as Marine Midland Bank cut its prime rate to 20 per cent from 20½ per cent. Later, Chemical Bank cut its prime to 19½ per cent from 20½ per cent.

Among the blue chips, active IBM, which announced an enhanced version of its point of sale terminal, gained one to 71⅞. Du Pont climbed 2¼ to 44⅞, Westinghouse ⅞ to 31⅞, Minnesota Mining 2¼ to 63⅞, American Telephone ⅞ to 50¼, Eastman Kodak two to 75 and Procter and Gamble 2½ to 71½.

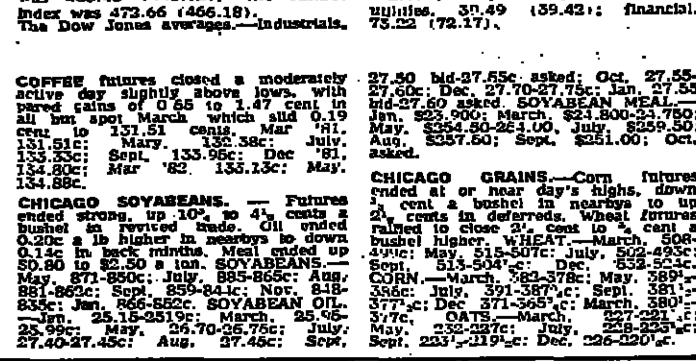
Oils were again hit by profit taking. Texaco lost ⅞ to 47½, Exxon 1¼ to 80½ and Mobil 1¼ to 79⅝.

Some banks were stronger. Texas Commerce Bancshares gained 2⅞ to 37⅞, Bankers Trust 1¼ to 63¾ and J. P. Morgan ⅞ to 43, but Chemical Bank slipped ⅞ to 44½.

McDonnell Douglas rose ⅞ to 48⅞. A Federal court said that under Illinois law, McDonnell may not be assessed punitive damages in the crash of a DC-10 in Chicago last year.

[illegible]

• Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.



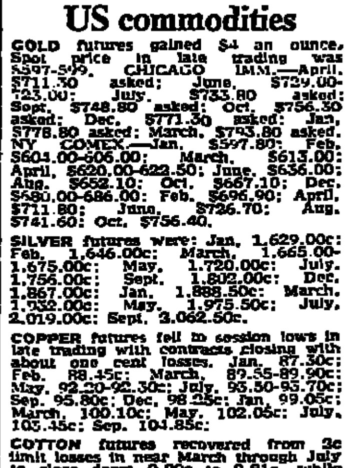
Foreign exchange.—Sterling, spot $2.4187 ($2.4250); three months, $2.4334 ($2.4422); Canadian dollar $1.1890 ($1.1893).

The Dow Jones spot commodity index was 453.45 (445.72). The futures index was 472.66 (466.18).

The Dow Jones averages.—Industrials, 1004.69 (992.66); transportation, 402.89 (406.77); utilities, 117.16 (117.81); 65 stocks, 384.66 (383.61).

New York Stock Exchange index, composite 79.14 (79.08); industrials, 92.78 (92.79); transportation, 76.48 (77.48); utilities, 39.49 (39.42); financial, 73.22 (72.17).

US commodities



GOLD futures gained $4 an ounce. Spot price in late trading was $597-599. CHICAGO IMM.—April, $711.30 asked; June, $729.00-723.00; July, $733.80 asked; Sept, $748.80 asked; Oct, $756.30 asked; Dec, $771.30 asked; Jan, $778.80 asked; March, $793.80 asked. NY COMEX.—Jan, $597.80; Feb, $604.00-606.00; March, $613.00; April, $620.00-622.50; June, $636.00; Aug, $652.10; Oct, $667.10; Dec, $680.00-686.00; Feb, $696.90; April, $711.80; June, $726.70; Aug, $741.60; Oct, $756.40.

SILVER futures were: Jan, 1,629.00c; Feb, 1,646.00c; March, 1,665.00-1,675.00c; May, 1,720.00c; July, 1,756.00c; Sept, 1,802.00c; Dec, 1,867.00c; Jan, 1,888.50c; March, 1,932.00c; May, 1,975.50c; July, 2,019.00c; Sept, 3,062.50c.

COPPER futures fell to session lows in late trading with contracts closing with about one cent losses. Jan, 87.30c; Feb, 88.45c; March, 89.55-89.90c; May, 92.20-92.30c; July, 95.50-95.70c; Sep, 95.80c; Dec, 98.25c; Jan, 99.05c; March, 100.10c; May, 102.05c; July, 103.45c; Sep, 104.85c.

COTTON futures recovered from 3c limit losses in near March through July to close down 0.09c to 0.81c, while traded deferreds finished 0.35c to 0.02c lower. March '81, 9550c; May, 96.00c; July, 95.55c; Oct, 89.70c; Dec, 85.77c; March '82, 86.25c; May, 86.75c.

SUGAR futures were: March, 33.78c; May, 33.31c; July, 33.37c; Sept, 30.95c; Oct 30.40c; Jan '82, 28.05c; March, 27.30c; May, 27.15c.

COCOA futures ended a dull session with slight gains of $5 to $12 across the board. Mar, $2.056; May, $2.085; July, $2.136; Sept, $3.175; Dec, $2.222; Mar '82, 2.282.

COFFEE futures closed a moderately active day slightly above lows, with pared gains of 0.55 to 1.47 cent in all but spot March which slid 0.19 cent to 131.51 cents. Mar '81, 131.51c; May, 132.38c; July, 133.33c; Sept, 133.95c; Dec '81, 134.80c; Mar '82, 135.13c; May, 134.88c.

CHICAGO SOYABEANS.—Futures ended strong, up 10¾ to 4½ cents a bushel in revived trade. Oil ended 0.20c a lb higher in nearbys to down 0.14c in back months. Meal ended up $0.80 to $2.50 a ton. SOYABEANS.—May, 871-850c; July, 885-865c; Aug, 881-862c; Sept, 859-844c; Nov, 848-835c; Jan, 866-852c. SOYABEAN OIL.—Jan, 25.15-25.19c; March, 25.95-25.99c; May, 26.70-26.75c; July, 27.40-27.45c; Aug, 27.45c; Sept, 27.50 bid-27.55c asked; Oct, 27.55-27.60c; Dec, 27.70-27.75c; Jan, 27.55 bid-27.60 asked. SOYABEAN MEAL.—Jan, $23.900; March, $24.800-24.750; May, $254.50-254.00; July, $259.50; Aug, $257.50; Sept, $251.00; Oct, asked.

CHICAGO GRAINS.—Corn futures ended at or near day's highs, down ¼ cent a bushel in nearbys to up 2¾ cents in deferreds. Wheat futures rallied to close 2¼ cent to ¾ cent a bushel higher. WHEAT.—March, 508-499c; May, 515-507c; July, 502-493c; Sept, 513-504½c; Dec, 532-524c. CORN.—March, 382-378c; May, 389½-386c; July, 391-387½c; Sept, 381½-377½c; Dec 371-365½c; March, 380½-377c. OATS.—March, 227-221½c; May, 232-227c; July, 228-225½c; Sept, 223½-219½c; Dec, 226-220½c.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

[illegible]

Stock Exchange Prices

Electricals weak

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Dec 24. Dealings End, Jan 9. § Contango Day, Jan 12. Settlement Day, Jan 19

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BRITISH FUNDS

1980/81 High	Low	Stock		Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
SHORTS							
98 15/16	89 3/8	Treas	3 1/2% 1979-81	98 15/16	+1/32	3.537	13.502
99 1/8	89	Treas	9 3/4% 1981	99 1/8	+1/8	9.836	13.642
97 3/4	91	Exch	8 1/4% 1981	97 3/4	..	8.440	13.872
97 13/16	91	Exch	9 1/2% 1981	97 13/16	•+1/16	9.700	13.500
94	85 1/2	Exch	3% 1981	94	..	3.191	13.448
100 1/4	93 1/16	Exch	12 3/4% 1981	99 15/16	+1/16	12.768	12.789
96 1/8	88	Treas	8 1/2% 1980-82	96 1/8	•+1/16	8.842	12.682
92 1/8	81 5/8	Treas	3% 1982	92	..	3.260	10.865
102 3/8	90 1/2	Treas	14% 1982	100 15/16	..	13.870	13.122
94 5/16	85 5/8	Treas	8 1/4% 1982	94 5/16	+1/16	8.759	12.682
94 5/16	85 3/4	Exch	9 1/4% 1982	94 5/16	+1/16	9.820	13.147
93 1/4	84 5/8	Exch	8 3/4% 1983	93	+1/16	9.409	12.845
87 3/4	78 1/2	Exch	3% 1983	85 1/8	..	3.524	11.050
98 3/4	85 3/4	Treas	12% 1983	97 7/8	+1/8	12.280	13.151
93 1/2	84 1/4	Treas	9 1/4% 1983	92 3/4	•+1/8	9.973	12.720
102 1/8	94 1/4	Exch	13 1/2% 1983	101	+1/8	13.367	13.058
93 3/4	84 1/4	Exch	10% 1983	92 7/8	+1/8	10.768	13.000
84 3/4	76 3/4	Fund	5 1/2% 1982-84	84 5/8	• ..	6.499	11.682
97 1/16	86 7/8	Exch	11 1/4% 1984	95 1/4	+1/8	11.811	13.129
104 1/16	94 1/2	Exch	14% 1984	102 5/8	+1/8	13.643	13.007
78 5/8	68 1/4	Exch	3% 1984	78 5/8	..	3.816	10.556
99 5/8	88	Treas	12% 1984	97 1/4	+1/16	12.339	12.935
109 1/4	97 7/8	Treas	15% 1985	105 7/8	+1/8	14.168	13.076
73 1/2	68 15/16	Treas	3% 1985	73 1/2	..	4.062	10.763
MEDIUMS							
103 3/4	89 1/2	Exch	12 1/4% 1985	97 7/16	+1/8	12.572	12.965
97 1/8	93 1/2	Exch	11 3/4% 1986	97 1/8	+1/8	12.361	13.102
89 7/8	78 1/4	Treas	8 1/2% 1984-86	85 3/8	•+1/4	9.951	12.226
105 1/8	90 5/8	Exch	13 1/4% 1987	99 1/2	•+1/4	13.300	13.354
81 1/2	70 1/4	Fund	6 1/2% 1985-87	79 1/8	+1/8	8.341	11.521
97 1/4	91 1/8	Treas	12% 1987	94 1/8	+1/8	12.961	13.706
83	71 1/8	Treas	7 3/4% 1985-88	77 1/2	•+1/4	9.951	12.581
64 3/4	54 7/8	Treas	3% 1978-88	62	+1/4	4.843	10.467
98	82 5/8	Treas	11 1/2% 1989	92 3/4	+1/8	13.014	13.918
68 3/4	57 3/4	Treas	5% 1986-89	64 1/2	+1/4	7.894	11.827
104 3/4	89 1/8	Treas	13% 1990	96 1/8	•+1/4	13.489	13.721
82	69 1/2	Treas	8 1/4% 1987-90	76 3/4	+1/2	10.826	12.637
96 3/4	81 7/8	Treas	11 3/4% 1991	87 7/8	•+1/8	13.380	14.036
68	57 1/2	Fund	5 3/4% 1987-91	64 1/2	+1/4	9.127	12.162
93 3/4	77 7/8	Exch	11% 1991	86	+1/8	13.135	13.953
102 1/8	86 5/8	Treas	12 3/4% 1992	93 1/8	•+1/8	13.630	13.908
86 3/4	74 3/8	Treas	10% 1992	82 3/4	+1/8	12.672	13.741
100 1/2	84 3/4	Exch	12 1/4% 1992	94 1/8	+1/8	13.637	14.038
104 3/4	94 3/4	Exch	13 1/2% 1992	100	+1/8	14.062	14.210
100 3/8	84 7/8	Treas	12 1/2% 1993	91 1/4	•+1/8	13.595	13.885
66 3/4	54 3/4	Fund	6% 1993	62 3/4	+1/4	9.839	12.091
107 7/8	92 7/8	Treas	13 3/4% 1993	99 3/4	+1/8	14.028	14.087
115	96 1/2	Treas	14 1/2% 1994	107 1/4	+1/8	14.197	14.141
104 1/4	95 7/8	Exch	13 1/2% 1994	99	+1/8	14.019	14.117
100 3/8	85 1/2	Exch	12 1/2% 1994	95 5/8	+1/4	13.755	14.007
81 1/4	69 1/2	Treas	9% 1994	75 1/2	+1/4	12.126	13.076
102 3/8	81 1/4	Treas	12% 1995	88 3/4	•+1/2	13.509	13.839
50 1/4	42 3/4	Gas	3% 1990-95	48 7/8	+1/4	6.209	9.790
86 3/4	72 3/4	Exch	10 1/4% 1995	78 1/2	•+1/4	12.998	13.638
LONGS							
95 3/4	81 1/8	Treas	12 3/4% 1995	95	+1/2	13.694	13.853
109 1/4	94 1/8	Treas	14% 1996	99	•+1/2	14.064	14.087
91 3/4	67 3/4	Treas	9% 1992-96	76 1/4	+1/4	12.261	13.072
118 3/4	99 3/8	Treas	15 1/4% 1996	109	+1/2	14.356	14.237
106	89 3/8	Exch	13 1/4% 1996	97 1/4	+1/2	13.833	13.925
50 1/4	41 1/4	Rdmptn	3% 1986-96	49 3/4	+1/4	6.259	9.404
105 1/8	88 3/4	Treas	13 1/4% 1997	95 1/2	•+1/2	13.801	13.888
87 7/8	74 3/4	Exch	10 1/2% 1997	83 7/8	+1/2	13.151	13.602
80 1/4	65 7/8	Treas	8 3/4% 1997	74 7/8	+1/4	12.188	12.913
66 1/2	54 3/8	Treas	6 3/4% 1995-98	62	+1/4	11.110	12.270
121 3/4	101	Treas	15 1/2% 1998	112 1/8	+1/2	14.335	14.231
98 1/8	83	Exch	12% 1998	89 3/4	+1/4	13.633	13.824
83 3/4	69 3/8	Treas	9 1/2% 1999	75 3/8	+1/8	12.532	13.018
101 1/2	82 1/8	Exch	12 1/4% 1999	93	+1/4	13.702	13.843
88 3/4	75 3/4	Treas	10 1/2% 1999	81 1/4	+1/4	13.157	13.499
104	92 1/2	Treas	13% 2000	94 1/4	•+1/4	13.762	13.835
110 5/8	94 1/8	Treas	14% 1998-01	101 3/4	+1/4	14.007	14.010
93 1/4	80 3/4	Exch	12% 1999-02	88 3/8	•+1/4	13.545	13.673
108 7/8	91	Treas	13 3/4% 2000-03	98 1/2	•+1/4	13.868	13.888
97 1/4	78 3/4	Treas	11 1/2% 2001-04	89 1/4	+1/4	13.430	13.546
42 1/2	34 3/4	Fund	3 1/2% 1999-04	39 1/8	+1/8	8.933	10.542
101 7/8	86	Treas	12 1/2% 2003-05	93 7/8	+1/4	13.553	13.598
73	59 3/8	Treas	8% 2002-06	68 1/4	+1/4	12.091	12.387
96 7/8	79 3/4	Treas	11 3/4% 2003-07	87 3/4	•+1/4	13.396	13.472
109 3/4	94 1/2	Treas	13 1/2% 2004-08	102 1/4	+1/4	13.718	13.725
53 3/8	43	Treas	5 1/2% 2008-12	50 3/8	+1/4	11.324	11.676
70 1/4	57 1/8	Treas	7 3/4% 2012-15	63 3/4	•+1/4	12.108	12.239
101 1/4	84 1/2	Exch	12% 2013-17	92 7/8	+1/4	13.045	13.055
35	28 1/8	Consols	4%	32	•+1/8	12.350	..
34 1/4	28 3/4	War Ln	3 1/2%	30 7/8	+1/8	11.425	..
38	32 1/2	Conv	3 1/2%	37 1/8	+1/8	9.576	..
26	21 1/2	Treas	3%	24 1/8	+1/8	12.386	..
22 7/8	19 1/4	Consols	2 1/2%	20 7/8	+1/4	11.916	..
21 7/8	17 3/4	Treas.	2 1/2% Aft 75	20 3/4	+1/8	12.374	..

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

High	Low	Stock		Price	Ch'ge	Int. Yield	Red. Yield
92 3/8	81 1/2	Aust	5 1/2% 81-82	92 3/8	+1/8	6.052	13.814
85 1/4	76	Aust	6% 81-83	83 3/4	+1/4	7.220	13.196
97 3/4	87 1/2	Aust	7% 79-81	97 3/4	+1/4	7.346	14.893
83 1/2	72 3/4	E Africa	5 3/4% 77-83	82 3/4	..	7.019	14.895
52	46 1/4	Hungary	4 1/2% 1924	51	..	..	..
89 1/2	79 1/4	Ireland	7 1/2% 81-83	86	+1/4	..	..
230	175	Japan Ass	4% 1910	175	..	..	..
74	59	Japan	6% 83-88	74	..	..	..
91 1/8	80	Kenya	5% 78-82	91 1/8	..	5.596	15.816
93	81 1/4	Malaya	7 1/2% 78-82	92 3/4	+1/2	8.366	15.062
67 1/4	58	N Z	7 3/4% 88-92	64	+1/4	11.353	13.549
82 3/4	72 3/4	N Z	7 1/2% 83-86	78 5/8	+1/8	9.639	13.354
150	147 5/8	Peru	6% Ass	150	..	..	..
97	87 1/2	S Africa	9 1/2% 79-81	96 1/2	..	..	..
162	95	S Rhd	2 1/2% 65-70	113	-2	..	..
93	53	S Rhd	4 1/2% 87-92	75	-2	..	..
168	145	S Rhd	6% 78-81	150	..	..	..
36	34	Spanish	4%	36	..	..	..
91 1/4	82 1/2	Tang	5 1/2% 78-82	91 1/4	..	6.403	15.940
94	89 1/2	Uruguay	3 1/2%	94	..	..	..

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

High	Low	Stock		Price	Ch'ge	Int. Yield	Red. Yield
24	21	L C C	3% 1920	23 1/4	..	13.280	..
84	73 3/4	L C C	5% 80-83	84	..	5.952	13.493
94 1/4	82 3/4	L C C	5 1/2% 77-81	94 1/4	+1/8	5.835	14.516
83 1/2	70 3/4	L C C	5 1/2% 82-84	78 3/4	..	6.288	16.601
71 1/4	60 1/2	L C C	5 1/2% 85-87	68 1/2	..	8.079	12.960
71 1/4	60 1/2	L C C	6 3/4% 88-90	67	..	10.059	12.848
66 1/2	56 1/4	G L C	6 3/4% 90-92	64 3/4	..	10.872	13.381
93 1/2	81 3/4	G L C	9 1/2% 80-82	93 1/4	..	10.187	13.902
98 3/4	89	G L C	12 1/2% 1983	98 1/8	..	12.707	13.839
98 1/2	85 1/4	G L C	12 1/2% 1983	97 1/2	+1/4	12.819	14.567
90 1/4	81 1/2	C of L	6 1/2% 80-82	90 1/4	..	7.202	13.851
83 3/4	71 5/8	Ag Mt	7 3/4% 81-84	83 1/4	..	9.310	13.680
69 3/4	58	Ag Mt	7 3/4% 91-93	65 1/4	..	12.133	13.870
68	55 1/2	Ag Mt	6 3/4% 85-90	64 1/2	..	10.622	13.770
94 1/4	83 7/8	Croydon	6 3/4% 78-81	94 1/4	..	7.162	14.029
92 3/4	83 1/4	Glasgow	9 1/4% 80-82	92 1/2	..	10.000	13.970
100	92 3/4	Liverpl	13 1/2% 1981	99 3/4	+1/8	13.533	14.205
30	24 3/4	Met Water B	3% -03	29	..	10.731	12.917
82	70	N I	7% 82-84	80 3/4	+1/2	8.667	14.427
86	75 1/2	N I Elec	6 1/2% 81-83	86	..	7.568	14.298
77 1/2	67 7/8	Swark	6 3/4% 83-86	74	..	9.256	13.595

DOLLAR STOCKS

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
13 7/8	7 15/16	Brascan	£12 3/4	..	60.5	4.9	23.7
20 1/2	6 1/4	BP Canada	£13 3/16	..	..	..	..
19	13 1/4	Can Pac Ord	£15	-1/4	68.5	4.6	6.0
13 5/8	9 3/8	El Paso	£10 1/8	-1/4	41.7	4.0	19.5
38 3/4	31 15/16	Exxon Corp	£33 5/8	-1/4	..	..	..
29 3/4	10 7/8	Fluor	£25	• ..	34.6	1.4	29.8
27 7/8	14 7/16	Hollinger	£16 5/8	-3/16	..	..	..
14 9/32	7 3/4	Hud Bay Oil	£8 11/16	+3/32	28.9	3.3	16.3
700	322	Husky Oil	735	-55	..	..	..
14 1/2	7 15/16	INCO	£8 13/16	+5/16	29.8	3.4	27.4
10 1/32	4 21/32	IU Int	£7 3/16	+7/32	4.6	0.6	9.6
12 3/8	8	Kaiser Alum	$9 21/32	-1/32	58.4	6.0	4.1
490	155	Massey-Ferg	175	+5	..	..	..
748	450	Norton Simon	c658	+5	45.1	0.1	..
34 7/8	22 5/8	Pan Canadian	£33 1/2	-1/8	..	..	..
257	148	Steep Rock	245	-12	..	..	..
11 3/4	7 13/16	Trans Can P	£7 13/16	..	..	..	..
19 1/4	9 3/8	US Steel	£10 1/2	-1/8	..	..	..
31 1/2	11 1/8	Zapata Corp	$31 1/2	+1/4	34.4	1.1	..

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
282	184	Alexs Discount	259	+7	24.3	9.4	..
428	293	Allen H & Ross	373	..	30.7	8.2	15.4
128	96	Allied Irish	113	-3	8.2	7.2	4.9
18	13	Ansbacher H	17 1/4	-1/2	0.2	1.2	21.0
249	184	Arb-Latham	238	+5	15.7	6.6	15.2
266	203	ANZ Grp	266	+1	11.9	4.5	6.8
17 3/8	9 3/16	Bank America	£12 1/2	-1/8	60.1	4.8	7.3
358	283	Bk of Ireland	283	-10	22.7	8.0	5.0
11	6	Bk Leumi Israel	7	..	0.7b	9.7	13.7
190	100	Bk Leumi UK	180	..	12.7	7.1	14.2
179	134	Bk of NSW	151	• -1	8.9	5.9	5.7
324	236 1/2	Bk of Scotland	294	-5	22.5	7.7	3.8
485	327 1/2	Barclays Bank	433	-8	26.4	6.1	3.5
435	274	Brown Shipley	385	-5	18.6b	4.8	12.0
394	262	Cater Ryder	359	..	30.0	8.4	..
105	61	Charterhse Grp	93	-2	6.1	6.6	9.9
20 1/2	15 3/8	Chase Man	$19 15/16	-1/16	117	5.9	5.4
10 5/16	5 5/16	Citicorp	$10 1/4	• +1/4	59.2	5.8	5.6
73 1/2	33 3/4	Clive Discount	46	..	0.7	1.5	..
159	119	Com Bk of Syd	154	+2	9.3	6.0	4.0
46 3/4	27 7/8	Commerzbank	£28 3/4	+1/2	37.0	1.3	37.3
26 3/4	21 3/4	Cp Fn Paris	£23	..	215	9.3	9.0
21	16	CC De France	£21	..	126	6.0	18.9
39 1/2	9	First Nat Fin	25 1/2	-1 1/4	..	..	1.5
310	192	Gerrard & Nat	298	..	16.4	5.5	..
227	157	Gillett Bros	222	..	15.0	6.8	54.5
176	113	Grindlays Hldgs	168	..	5.6	3.4	5.9
149	87	Guinness Peat	118	+5	10.0	8.5	8.6
187 1/2	29 1/2	Hambros £10	£59 1/2	..	254	4.3	..
705	279	Do Ord	585	..	25.4	4.3	14.1
162	73	Hill Samuel	147	-1	8.9	6.0	12.3
192	100	Hong K & Shang	188	-4	4.4	2.4	25.1
86	54	Jessel Toynbee	78	..	6.6	8.5	..
198	123	Joseph L.	193	..	13.6	7.4	9.8
94	60	King & Shaxson	88	..	7.1	8.1	14.5
274	118	Kleinwort Ben	242	-2	10.0	4.1	10.9
338	278	Lloyds Bank	336	-7	22.1	6.6	3.0
248	146	Mercury Secs	221	+1	9.3	4.2	8.1
395	203	Midland	333	-10	28.6	8.6	2.9
73	38 3/4	Minster Assets	67	..	5.6	8.3	12.4
167	114	Nat of Aust	129	-3	8.8	6.8	5.6
420	306	Nat W'minster	383	-8	27.1	7.1	2.7
70	46	Ottoman	£47	..	310	6.6	10.9
113	45 3/4	Rea Bros	110	..	2.4	2.2	24.1
21 5/8	14 3/4	Royal of Can	£20 7/8	-1/4	95.0	4.6	6.6
118	75	Ryl Bk Scot Grp	91	-2	7.0	7.7	3.4
350	196 1/2	Schroders	330	..	12.1	3.7	8.6
270	195	Seccombe Mar	240	-10	22.9	9.5	14.7
180	96	Smith St Aubyn	170	..	12.9	7.6	..
689	477	Standard Chart	672	..	40.0	6.0	7.6
543	343	Union Discount	508	..	32.3	6.4	24.4
93	63	Wintrust	87	• ..	4.2	4.8	9.4

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
89	66	Allied	66 1/2	-1	7.1	10.7	5.5
244	188	Bass	207	-1	12.3	5.9	8.4
198	153	Bell A.	154	..	8.7	5.6	5.0
111	68	Boddingtons	108	..	3.9	3.6	16.2
142	50	Brown M.	140	+2	8.1	5.8	9.4
199	142	Bulmer HP Hldgs	183	• ..	12.2	6.7	8.2
85	56	C of Ldn Dfd	78	..	6.3	8.1	17.5
283	198	Devenish	236	..	10.7	4.5	10.5
236	164	Distillers	187	-3	15.4	8.2	5.0
242	166	Greene King	240	..	8.0	3.3	13.3
98 1/2	70	Guinness	78	• -2	7.0	9.0	6.0
300	218	Hardys & H'sons	300	..	15.9	5.3	12.3
151	88	Highland	88	-2	3.7	4.2	10.5
240	167	Invergordon	167	..	5.7	3.4	8.9
86	60	Irish Distillers	61	• ..	3.6	5.8	4.2
74	53	Marston	60	• -1	2.3	3.9	9.3
70 1/2	51 1/2	Scot & Newcastle	57	-1	6.3	11.0	5.6
26 5/8	15 1/2	Seagram	£24 5/8	+1/8	49.6	3.0	16.1
192	107	SA Breweries	157	+2	10.6	6.7	8.2
213	99	Tomatin	98	..	..	..	..
166	130	Vaux	139	• ..	9.8	7.0	7.1
176	123	Whitbread 'A'	151	-1	8.4	5.5	7.2
176	127	Do B	153	..	8.4	5.5	7.2
106 1/2	70 1/2	Whitbread Inv	98	..	5.4	5.5	25.0
200	123	Wolverhampton	186	• ..	7.1	3.8	10.6

TEA

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
248	193	Assam Frontier	205	..	14.3	7.0	..
485	350	Camellia Inv	422	..	5.7	1.4	..
378	279	McLeod Russel	290	-5	21.4	7.1	..
332	203	Moran	235	..	11.4	[illegible]	..
158	110	Surmah Valley	110	-3	3.2	2.9	..
197 1/2	132 1/4	Warren Plant	189	r +3	14.35	7.6	..

MISCELLANEOUS

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
48	25	Calcutta Elec	28	..	7.0	25.0	..
33 1/2	29 1/2	Essex Wtr 3.5%	£33 1/2	..	500	14.9	..
27 1/2	19	Gt Nthn Tele	£23	..	153	7.0	8.1
353	197	Imp Cont Gas	245	• -13	10.1	4.1	11.7
185	100	Milford Docks	101	..	9.8	9.7	..
136	83	Nesco Inv	120	-3	10.0	7.7	..
33 1/2	28 1/2	Sunderlnd Wtr	£33 1/2	..	526	16.1	..

• Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
Allied London Prop 8 1/2% Cnv 1999 (†)	£7 prem
Bell A. 8 1/2% Conv 1999-2001	£25 1/2+1/2
Chester Water 9% Red Pref 1985 (†)	£107
Damson Oil Com Stk	£9 1/2-1/4
Dunbar Group 21 Ord (303)	450+5
East Anglian Water 9% Red Pref 1985 (†)	£107
East Worcester Water 9% Red Pref 1985 (†)	£107
Essex Water 8 1/2% Red Pref 1985 (†b)	£105
Exchequer 12% 'A' 1999 (†)	£9 7/8+1/4
Independent Inv 25p Ord (107†)	12 prem
Lon Merchant Secs 7 1/2% Cnv Ln 2000-05	£145 1/2+1/2
New Tokyo Inv Trust 50p Ord	110-3
Phoenix Mining 25p Ord (25)	50
Treasury 11 1/2% 1989 'A' (†a)	£27 3/4+1/4
Treasury 11 3/4% 2003-2007 'A' (†g)	£36+1/4
Zimbabwe Settlement Annuity Reg	£33 1/2+1

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of renun	
Brotherhood P. (115‡)	Feb 20	25 prem
Royal Insurance (320‡)	..	25 prem-1
Warren Plantations (145‡)	Feb 16	44 prem+3

Issue price in parentheses. * Ex dividend. † Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a £30 paid b. £10 paid. g Fully paid. g £40 paid.

Residential property

Shakespeare stayed in this house

Elizabethan and Jacobean properties are fairly common on the market, but few can boast, as does Shakespeare House at Grendon Underwood, Buckinghamshire, to have inspired one of the Bard's great plays, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. This village house, 15 miles from Oxford, was an inn in Shakespeare's time and Sir Nikolaus Pevsner, in his series "The Buildings of England", says that Will occasionally stayed there overnight when travelling between London and Stratford.

The house with its two acres, *now up for sale (Brown and Merry)* for £112,500, has won itself references also in the *Illustrated London News* in 1847 when it was threatened with demolition, in the *Shell's Guide to England* and in *Kelly's Directory*, 1881.

Shakespeare House has all the usual attractive features of Elizabethan properties; fine oak timbering, a staircase said to be Jacobean in origin, inglenook fireplaces, flagged floors and lattice windows with cockspur catches and well-proportioned rooms with higher ceilings than in more cottagey houses of the period.

The accommodation, in good decorative order, includes a large drawing room where an area of wall finish has been rubbed away to reveal what is thought to be a rare example of Elizabethan painted wall decoration, *five bedrooms, three bathrooms* and a "Shakespeare suite" of two small rooms with exposed beams.

Of less historic, but of equal architectural interest, is More Place, Betchworth, Surrey, a Grade II listed timber framed house, dating from the fifteenth century and *enlarged in the* seventeenth. On the market at *£250,000* (Knight, Frank and Rutley) has among its noteworthy features a Gothic tower and carved figureheads on the stone chimney, a Tudor arched porch and huge oak beams.

A larger property than Shakespeare House, it has three reception rooms, seven bedrooms, four bathrooms, five attic rooms and a staff flat; it stands in just over five acres and has a range of outbuildings including two cottages and stables.

Going farther up market again there is Avishays Estate, Chard, Somerset, once the home of the Every family *and reputedly the* scene of a narrow escape by its Royalist owner from the Parliamentary forces during the Civil War. The house was also said to be part of the escape route of the ill-fated Duke of Monmouth after the Battle of Sedgemoor in 1685.

The mellowed-brick house is essentially Georgian in character, but features such as carved oak panelling, stone-mullioned and leaded light windows indicate its likely Elizabethan origins. Avishays, which is scheduled as being of historic and architectural interest, includes nine bed*rooms, three bathrooms and three* reception rooms, a range of livestock farmbuildings set in its 226 acres, two bungalows and a cottage. The agents, Humberts of Taunton, are expecting offers in the region of £400,000.



Avishays Estate, Chard : a mixture of Georgian and Elizabethan for around £400.000.

Also in the West country is yet another fine Elizabethan property, Througham Slad, a grade *II listed manor house in Cotswold* stone at Bistey, near Stroud, Gloucestershire. It dates from the fourteenth century when it was constructed as three houses with mullioned windows. The main part is now Elizabethan.

In its eleven acres is a second house, Little Greys, also in Cotswold stone and some 200-300 *years old. Both properties, which* were once owned by the Cadbury family, have been restored or renovated to a high standard and the whole property, being handled by Hampton and Sons, is expected to go for around £265,000.

At the other end of the price scale there are several small properties, *often conversions,* such as the Toll House, Colchester, Essex. This is a listed grade II building for sale for £70,000 (James Abbott Partnership). The property is thought to be about 300 years old. It is believed to be the original toll house on the main route into town, which became the gardener's cottage to Lexden Manor around 1850. It has two reception rooms and four bedrooms.

Around the same price is Little Forge, High Hurstwood, *Sussex, a conversion from the* original building, reputed to be over 200 years old. The property stands in two acres of garden, adjoining a mill pond with trout stream, waterfalls and bluebell wood. Braxtons, the agents in Uckfield, are asking for offers in the region of £67,500.

Also on the market *is* a thatched Dorset cottage, thought to be some 350 years old and to have been lived in by the village blacksmith. Blue Haze, in the village of Grange, near Wimborne, is built of mellow old brick and retains original features such as exposed beamed ceilings and *inglenook* fireplaces. The cottage, in just over two acres, is being offered by Savills for £77,500.

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ITN

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PERSONAL CHOICE

Svetozar Gligoric, the Yugoslav Grandmaster who plays Nigel Short of Great Britain in the first programme in The Master Game series (BBC 2, 6.30)

● I was pontificating away, some weeks ago, on the theme of snooker's being the sport most suited to television because of the camera's ability to magnify the intimate personal dramas on and around the oblong, green stage (*Pot-Black, on BBC 2 last night*). I would like to amend that statement so as to bracket chess with snooker. Indeed, in one respect, as you will learn if you watch The Master Game tonight (BBC 2, 6.30), television coverage of chess goes one better than the filming of snooker because the commentary incorporates the spoken thoughts of the players as he contemplates his next move.

● Show a little tolerance towards Dame Margot Fonteyn in her unaccustomed role of programme presenter. We who have seen The Magic of Dance (BBC 2, 8.00) the first time round know that, as the weeks go by, her confidence increases, and by the time we get to the sixth and final film in the series, all doubts as to her suitability for the job of dance historian have been dispelled. Tonight's inaugural film has what old-time film publicity men used to call an all-star cast: Nureyev, Makarova, *Astaire, Sammy Davis Jnr and Lynn Seymour*.

● Westward Television's contributions to the networked About Britain series have a touch of class about them. One has only to think back to that film about the Gibsons, the photographic dynasty in the Scillies. Today's film The Beach (ITV, 12.30) is a wordless study of daytrippers at West Country resorts. Wordless, but musical, and therein lies much of the charm of John King's images of unsuspecting holidaymakers caught with their inhibitions down.

● Shorn of his Christian name of Lamberto (in the hallowed tradition of Toscanini, Garbo and other semi-mystical figures), Signor Gardelli is advertised as conducting the BBC Scottish SO tonight (Radio 3, 7.00 and 7.50) in Britten's enchanting Simple Symphony and the Sibelius No 2 ... Sanderling conducts the BBC Northern SO in Strauss's symphonic poem Ein Heldenleben (Radio 3, 12.05). Radio Times grants him his Christian name, Kurt, which puts him among the ranks of the mere mortals.

● On paper, the most interesting of today's spoken-word programmes on radio are the first of Ronald Pickup's repeated readings from Wordsworth's autobiographical poem The Prelude (Radio 3, 4.00), and the Analysis inquiry by Mary Goldring into whether Britain, morally and financially, is playing fair by its OAPs (Radio 4, 7.45). Perhaps the title, Life Begins at 60, ought to carry a question mark.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: †STEREO; *BLACK AND WHITE; (r) REPEAT.



Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

TELEVISION

BBC 1

12.45 pm News: And weather forecast.
1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Ian Lyon examines the holiday brochures and selects some of the most interesting offers. Also, the start of a new series of Star Chef items.
1.45 Trumpton: the story of the bill poster (r). Closedown at 2.00.
3.20 Croesi'r Ffin: Crossing borders. Programme for Welsh viewers.
3.55 Play School: Frances Lindsay's story Mr Elis and Pieces Plants Some Bulbs is told by Sam Kydd. 4.20 Laurel and Hardy: cartoon. Plumber Pudding. 4.25 Jackanory: Colin Jeavons reads part 3 of William Browning's Grimm Grange. 4.40 The Record Breakers: Roy Castle and Norris McWhirter with more interesting facts, such as the location of the biggest brickworks known to man. They also talk to Shane Acton, who has completed a record-breaking voyage around the world in his 18ft yacht.
5.00 John Craven's Newsround: News items of particular interest to the young viewer. 5.05 The Strange Affair of Adelaide Harris: Episode 2 of Leon Garfield's tale set in an academy for young gentlemen. More about the case of the wrong baby.
5.40 News: with Jan Leeming.
5.55 Nationwide. Includes the start of voting in the Nationwide Rock and Pop Awards 1980. Organized in conjunction with Radio 1 and the Daily Mirror. Results at the end of February.
6.55 Triangle: Episode 2 of this 26 part serial about shipping life, with Michael Craig, Kate O'Mara.
7.20 Film: Tiara Tahiti (1962) Set in Tahiti, this is a comedy about two old enemies (James Mason, John Mills) who meet up again, whereupon an old class war between them breaks out again. Director: William T. Kotcheff.
9.00 News: with Richard Baker.
9.25 Sportsnight: Highlights from last night's light-welterweight championship fight between Clinton McKenzie and Des Morrison; also World Cup Skiing (the ladies' downhill) from Pfronten, West Germany, and highlights from one of tonight's FA Cup third round replays.
10.50 Parkinson: The mid-week edition of Michael Parkinson's chat show. His guests are Lord George Brown, Malcolm Muggeridge, George Melly and John Chilton and the Feetwarmers.
11.50 News Also, weather forecast.

Regions

BBC 1 VARIATIONS: BBC Cymru/Wales: [illegible]

BBC 2

10.20 am Gharbar: Magazine programme for the Asian woman viewer. Music, making things and a story. Closedown at 10.45.
11.00 Play School: Same as BBC 1, 3.55. Closedown at 11.25.
5.40 pm Laurel and Hardy: Come Clean (1931). The incomparable pair play married men who rescue a vamp (Mae Busch) and then have to hide her from their spouses.
6.00 Cartoon: La Linea.
6.05 Sixteen Up: New series for young adults. What they should do when stopped by the police. Also, the first in a series of appearances by John Cooper Clarke, a punk poet.
6.30 The Master Game: Eight of the world's leading Grand Chess Masters compete for the Master Game Trophy and a first prize of £2,300. Britain is represented by Tony Miles and Nigel Short. It is Nigel who tonight plays Svetozar Gligoric of Yugoslavia. (See Personal Choice.)
7.00 When the Bough Breaks: Third film in a series of 10 advising parents how to handle young children. Tonight: why bringing a brand new baby back home is not always the joyous occasion it ought to be. 7.15 News, with subtitles for the hard of hearing.
7.30 Riding on Top of the Car: Nostalgic film about tramcars. Includes a visit to the Crich Tramway Museum, near Matlock, in Derbyshire. Fortunately, there are still a couple of places where trams are still to be found. They include Blackpool and the Isle of Man. This film has already been seen on BBC 1, *Midlands*.
8.00 The Magic of Dance: Second showing of Margot Fonteyn's six programmes about the world she dominated for so long. Tonight, she surveys the ballet scene from the 1920s to the 1960s. She travels to Shanghai and New York. (See Personal Choice).
9.00 Film: The Graduate (1967). A sensational success when first screened, Mike Nichols's witty comedy (his debut) has Dustin Hoffman as the college graduate whose first experiences with women turn his life upside down. With Anne Bancroft, Katharine Ross, and Paul Simon's The Sound of Silence. 10.45 Newsnight. Ends at 11.35.

THAMES

9.30 am Show-Jumping with Harvey Smith: Keen contest at the country fair. Also, the role of the blacksmith and the groom. (r) 9.55 Top Gear: All kinds of drivers, including Graham Hill and a London bus driver. 10.40 Story Hour: Very Good Friends. How a girl is affected by her sister's death. With Melissa Sue Anderson.
11.30 A Big Country: Film about a 1,300 kilometre Australian gas pipeline. 11.55 Dick Tracey: cartoon.
12.00 Cloppa Castle: Medieval puppet story. 12.10 pm Rainbow: Liz Crowther tells the story of Old Mother Hubbard. 12.30 About Britain: The Beach. British holidaymakers at the West Country seaside. (See Personal Choice).
1.00 News. 1.20 Thames News. 1.30 Take the High Road: Scottish serial. Will Elizabeth give up the fight to save the estate and return to a calmer life in Edinburgh?
2.00 After Noon Plus: This is the Year of the Disabled, and this afternoon's programme takes note of the fact. 2.45 Fantasy Island: The return of Scarlett O'Hara and Rhett Butler. 3.45 Definition: Crossword competition, with Gordon Honeycombe and Jane Rossington. 4.15 Watch It: A Dr Snuggles story. 4.20 Runaround: Mike Reid is MC in this quiz for youngsters.



Lisa Goddard as the journalist in Southern Television's Brendon Case (ITV, 4.45)

4.45 Brendon Chase: Three brothers struggle for survival in a forest. Episode 2. 5.15 Gambit: General knowledge quiz, with Fred Dinenage. 5.45 News. 6.00 Thames News. 6.25 Help! The rights and wrong ways of helping disabled people. 6.35 Crossroads: Becky Foster's *faux pas*.
7.00 This is Your Life: Hugs-and-kisses biography, conducted by Eamonn Andrews. 7.30 Coronation Street: Eddie Yeats becomes a sleuth.
8.00 The Benny Hill Show: Not a repeat, but a new show. With Hill's Angels. Wondergran. Dr and Mr Hide. 9.00 Best Sellers: Part 2 of Beulah Land, a "Gone with the Wind" type of romantic drama. Tonight, Sarah (Lesley Ann Warren) takes over the running of the plantation.
10.00 News. 10.30 Best Sellers: Continued.
11.20 The International Boat Show: Preview of tomorrow's Daily Express exhibition at Earls Court. With Clare Francis and Bob Fisher.
12.20 am Close. The editor of The Times, William Rees-Mogg, with another reading from Bishop Berkeley's Alciphron, the great 18th century philosophical work.

RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
7.00, 8.00 News.
7.30, 8.30 Headlines.
8.45 Bartleby (3).
9.00 News.
9.05 Mid-Week.
10.00 News.
10.02 Gardeners' Question Time.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Story: The Ritual Man, by Douglas Railton.
11.00 News.
11.05 Baker's Dozen.†
12.00 News.
12.02 pm You and Yours.
12.27 Award Winners: The Hitch-Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy.†
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Play: Table Talk, by Peter Johnson. 3.40 An Audio Encyclopaedia of Personal Knowledge.
4.00 Choral Evensong.†
4.45 There Came Both Mist and Snow (3).
5.00 PM.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News.
6.30 What Ho! Jeeves.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 The Little Swallow and The Happy Prince.†
7.45 Life Begins at 60. (See Personal Choice).
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 Old Took's Almanac.†
11.00 Lord Jim (3).
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Unforgettables.
12.00 News.
12.15 am-12.23 Shipping forecast.

VHF
10.30 am-10.45 Listen With Mother.
11.00 pm-11.30 Study on 4: Digame!

Radio 3

6.55 am Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Records: Tallis, S. S. Wesley, Finzi, Chopin, Haydn (Sym 96).†
8.00 News.
8.05 Records: Milhaud, Canteloube, *Hindemith* (4 Temperaments).†
9.00 News.
9.05 Week's Composer: Mozart (incl K448).†
10.00 Organ (Preston): Buxtehude, Couperin, Bach.†
10.45 Violin, piano (Gruenberg/McCabe): McCabe, Rawsthorne, Payne.†
11.30 Songs: Purcell.†
12.05 pm BBC Northern SO/Sanderling: Gluck, Strauss (Heldenleben).† (See Personal Choice.)
1.00 News.
1.05 Piano (I. Hobson—live from Broadcasting House): Beethoven (*op 105*).†
2.00 Music Weekly.†
2.50 BBCSO/Boulez: Boulez (Eclat/Multiples).†
3.25 Mezzo, piano (Baker, Leppard): Fauré, Debussy, Berkeley, Liszt.†
4.00 Reading: The Prelude, by Wordsworth (1).
4.30 Chamber music: Mozart.
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
7.00 BBC Scottish SO/Gardelli, pt 1: Vivaldi, Britten.† (See Personal Choice).
7.30 Six Continents.
7.50 BBCSSO, pt 2: Sibelius (Sym 2).†
8.45 The Work of Czeslaw Milosz.†
9.30 Piano (Helffer): Beethoven (op. 27 no 1), Brahms (Son 3).†
10.30 Series: Three Problems for Don Isidro Parodi, by Jorge Luis Borges and Adolfo Bioy-Casares (1).
11.00 News.
11.05-11.15 Record: Rachmaninov.†

Radio 2

5.00 am News, weather. 5.03 Bob Kilbey.† 7.32 Terry Wogan.† 10.03 Jimmy Young.† 12.03 pm Ray Moore.† 2.03 Ed Stewart.† 4.03 Much More Music.† 6.03 John Dunn.† 8.02 Listen to the Band.† 8.45 Alan Dell. 9.15 Semprini Serenade.† 9.55 Sports Desk. 10.02 It's a Funny Business. 10.30 Ken Dodd. 11.03 Brian Matthew. 2.02 am-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Steve Wright. 11.00 Andy Peebles. 12.30 pm Newsbeat. 12.45 Paul Burnett. 2.32 Dave Lee Travis. 4.32 Peter Powell. 7.00 Mailbag. 8.00 Richard Skinner. 10.02 John Peel.† 12.00 Close.
VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2: 5.00 am With Radio 2. 10.00 pm With Radio 1. 10.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648 kHz, 463m) at the following times (GMT):
6.00 am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-four Hours. 7.45 Report on Religion. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Peebles' Choice. 8.30 Animal, Vegetable or Mineral? 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Play it My Way. 10.15 Divertimento. 10.30 The Life and Death of the Silly Ass. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 Listening Post. 11.30 The Music Party. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 pm Nature Notebook. 12.25 The Farming World. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-four Hours. 1.30 Radio Theatre. 2.15 Report on Religion. 2.30 Aspects of the Blue. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.15 Through the Looking Glass and What Alice Found There. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Book Choice. 5.15 Listening Post. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-four Hours. 8.30 Assignment. 9.15 Play it My Way. 9.45 Four Hands in Harmony. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Round up. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 A House for Mr Biswas. 11.30 Top Twenty. 12.00 World News. 12.09 am News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 Listening Post. 12.45 Musical Memories. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Monastic Life in the Twentieth Century. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network U.K. 2.30 Assignment. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today.

WAVELENGTHS: Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 433m/693kHz and 88-91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90-92.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area only: med wave 720kHz/417m. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF, Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF. World Service: med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 206m, 94.9 VHF.

REGIONAL TV

Channel

As Thames except: Starts 12.30 pm-1.00 About Britain. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Young Ramsay. 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00-6.35 Channel Report. 10.34-11.20 Best Sellers, continued. 12.15 am Epilogue.

Yorkshire

As Thames except: 9.30 am Indians of North America. 9.45-12.00 Film: Finian's Rainbow (Fred Astaire). 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Last of Summer. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00-6.35 Calendar.

Granada

As Thames except: 9.30 am Untamed World. 9.50 Spiderman. 10.15 Beyond Westworld. 11.00-12.00 Sesame Street. 1.20 pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 2.00 Live from Two. 2.50-3.45 Fantasy Island. 5.15-5.45 Welcome Back Kotter. 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.25 This is Your Right. 6.30-7.00 Crossroads.

Anglia

As Thames except: Starts 9.15 am Jobline. 9.30 Pavilion Folk. 9.55 Chester Beatty Library. 10.45 Patterns. 11.10-12.00 Star Parade. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Young Ramsay. 5.15-5.45 Pauline Black. 6.00-6.35 About Anglia. 12.20 am Big Question.

ATV

As Thames except: Starts 9.45 am Nature of Things. 10.35 Arts for Whom? 11.10-12.00 Murphy's America. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Young Ramsay. 5.15-5.45 In Loving Memory. 6.00 News. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30-7.00 ATV Today. 12.20 am-12.25 News.

Scottish

As Thames except: 9.30 am Split Seconds. 9.55 Film: Where There's a Will.* (Will Hay). 11.10 Reality of Karel Appel. 11.25 Al Oeming. 11.50-12.00 Bubbles. 1.20 News. 1.30 pm-2.00 Bygones. 2.45-3.45 Certain Women. 5.15 Tales of Crime. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.20 Tove's Talk Back. 6.30-7.00 Take the High Road. 12.20 am-12.25 Late Call.

Westward

As Thames except: 9.30 am Amazing Years of Cinema. 9.55 Dinah Saur. 10.10 Diary of Civilizations. 11.00-12.00 Sesame Street. 12.27 pm-12.30 Gus Honeybun's Birthdays. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Young Ramsay. 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00-6.35 Westward Diary. 10.31 News. 10.34-11.20 Best Sellers, continued. 12.15 am-12.20 Faith for Life.

Grampian

As Thames except: Starts 9.40 am First Thing. 9.45 Human Face of China. 10.10 Cities. 11.05-12.00 Pilobolus Dance Theatre. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Young *Ramsay*. 5.15-5.45 Batman. 6.00-6.35 North Tonight. 12.20 am Reflections. 12.25-12.30 News.

Tyne Tees

As Thames except: Starts 9.20 am Good Word. 9.25 News. 9.30 Survival. 9.55 Alphabet. 10.20 Call It Macaroni. 10.55 Stars on Ice. 11.20 Home Nursing. 11.50-12.00 Sally and Jake. 1.20 pm-1.30 News, Lookaround. 2.45-3.45 Danger UXB. 6.00 News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25-7.00 Northern Life. 10.30-10.32 News. 12.15 am-12.20 Visit of the Wise Men.

Border

As Thames except: Starts 9.30 am Friends of Man. 9.55 Inner Space. 10.25-12.00 Film: Run Wild, Run Free (John Mills). 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Love Boat. 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00-6.35 Lookaround. 12.20 am-12.23 News.

HTV

As Thames except: Starts 9.45 am Sesame Street. 10.45 Galway Way. 11.35-12.00 Looks Familiar. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25-4.15 Film: Above Us the Waves (John Mills). 5.15 Dick Tracy. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Report West. 6.30-7.00 Survival. 10.28-10.30 News.
HTV CYMRU/WALES: As HTV West except: 12.00-12.10 pm Ffalabalam. 4.15-4.20 Trojan Horse. 4.45-5.15 Stracon Y Byd: Lloegr. 6.00-6.15 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales.

Southern

As Thames except: 9.30 am Call It Macaroni. 9.55 Chopper Squad. 10.45 Wild, Wild World of Animals. 11.15 Bailey's Bird. 11.45-12.00 Cartoon. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25 Young Ramsay. 3.20-3.45 Superstar Profile: David Niven. 5.15 Cartoon. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Day by Day. 6.35-7.00 Scene Midweek. 12.20 am Weather followed by Just Men.

Ulster

As Thames except: Starts 10.00 am Laurel and Hardy. 11.00 Little House on the Prairie. 11.50-12.00 Sally and Jake. 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.45-3.45 Young Ramsay. 4.13-4.15 News. 5.15 Cartoon. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00-7.00 Good Evening Ulster. 11.20 WKRP in Cincinnati. 11.15-12.00 Bedtime.

Classified Guide

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Box No. replies should be addressed to:
The Times, P.O. Box 7, New Printing House Square, Gray's Inn Road, London, WC1X 8EZ.

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Private Advertisers Only	01-837 3311
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Personal Trade	01-278 9351
Manchester Office	061-834 1234

Queries in connection with advertisements that have appeared, other than cancellations or alterations, tel.: Classified Queries Department 01-837 1234, Extn 7180. All advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Limited, copies of which are available on request.

Classified Rates

Personal Columns	£3.25 per line £17.50 per cm semi-display £20.00 per full display
Appointments	£3.25 per line £17.50 per cm semi-display £20.00 per full display
Property	£3.25 per line £17.50 per cm semi-display £20.00 per full display
Weekend Shoparound	£14.00 per cm full display, minimum 5 cms
Court Circular	£5.00 per line
Box Numbers	£5.00

"... Think upon me, my God, for good."—Nehemiah 5: 19.

BIRTHS

CLEVERDON.—On January 4th, 1981, to Emma (nee Burao) and Lewis—a son.

GAUNTLETT.—On January 5th at Mount Alvernia Nursing Home, Guildford, to Joan and Victor—a son, Andrew Mark Louis (to be called Mark).

HILL.—On January 2nd, to Sarah (nee Cuppage) and Eddie—a daughter.

M[illegible].—On 3rd January, to Heather and Paul—a daughter.

McFALL.—On January 5th, to Alexandra and David—a son.

MILES.—On January 2nd, 1981, at the John Radcliffe, Oxford, to Gwyn (nee Morgan) and David—a son (Morien Joseph), brother for Jessica.

SIGLER.—On 6th January, 1981, to Catherine (nee Cawte) and Peter—a son (John), a brother for Ben.

UPTON.—On Dec 24 at Winchester County Hospital, to Rosemary (nee Townroe) and Timothy—a daughter (Matilda Esme), sister for Edward.

WARREN.—On January 5th, at St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, to Margarita (nee Carol) and Anthony—a daughter (Greta), a sister for Noel.

MARRIAGES

THOMAS : ROBLIN.—On Saturday, 3rd January, 1981, at St Teilo's Church, Llandeilo, Dyfed, Wales, Giles Mortimer, only son of Captain and Mrs Garth Thomas, of 299 Chesnut Hill Road, Stamford, Connecticut, U.S.A., and Fishguard, Wales, to Laraine Arianwen, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elfryn W. Roblin, Green Gables, Gorwydd Road, Gowerton, nr. Swansea, West Glamorgan, Wales.

WILKES : WALKER.—On Tuesday, December 23rd, 1980, in London, Professor J. J. Wilkes to Doctor Susan Walker.

SILVER WEDDING

HAINES : HOOD.—On 7th January 1956 at St. John's Church, Entebbe, Uganda, by Rev R. Harris, William Robert to Helen [illegible]

DEATHS

DUNCAN, ROSALIE CELIA.—On 5th January, 1981, at her home in Cape Town, suddenly but peacefully, aged 81, much loved mother of Sheila Greenwood, of Whitsbury House, Fordingbridge, Hampshire, and loved grandmother of Hamilton.

DYCKHOFF.—On January 3rd, peacefully at his home, Amberley, Burley Lane, Menston, near Ilkley, Fred, aged 80, beloved husband, father and grandfather. Requiem Mass at S.S. John Fisher and Thomas More, Burley-in-Wharfedale, on Thursday, at 1 p.m., followed by cremation at Rawdon at 2 p.m. No flowers, please : donations if desired to Help the Aged.

DYKE, JANET MARY, J.P., of Tettenhall, Wolverhampton, aged 85 years. Widow of Dr. S. C. Dyke, at her daughter's home, on 4th January, 1981. Funeral Service St. Michael and All Angels Church, Tettenhall, on Monday, 12th January, at 2 p.m. followed by interment at Danescourt cemetery.

FAIRBAIRN - WYNNE - EYTON, VIOLET HOPE.—On January 2nd, 1981 peacefully in her 90th year at the War Memorial Hospital, Wrexham, beloved wife of Alan (deceased). (Her courageous and indomitable character will be evermore remembered by her cousins and friends.) Funeral service at St. Mary's Church, Mold, on Friday, January 9th, at 2 p.m. Burial following at Pontblyddyn churchyard. Flowers may be sent, but if preferred donations may be given for Mold Hospital League of Friends.

GODFREY.—On December 24 1980, Gertrude Wilhelmina Laura Olave, last surviving grandchild of Surgeon General Francis Godfrey, Madras Army, H.E.I.C., aged 91.

HOPE-SMITH.—On December 30th, 1980, at Poole General Hospital, tragically, following a road accident, Edwin Paul, aged 69 years, dear father of Richard and James and much beloved grandfather of Karen, Isabel, Victoria, Alexandra and Jonathan. Funeral service at Bournemouth Crematorium on Monday, January 12th. A memorial service will be held at a later date at Christchurch Priory.

LITTERICK.—On January 6, in a [illegible]

[illegible]

IN MEMORIAM

[illegible]

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

[illegible]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

[illegible]

... **LONDON I.V.C.**—Offers a uniquely exciting range of cultural social and sporting events for the 20-35 professional age group. Visit us any WEDNESDAY evening between 7.30 and 9.00 for a friendly chat. I.V.C. 2-5 The Piazza, Covent Garden, W.C.2. Tel.: 240 2535.

TIMES CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING WORKS

How to be Prosperous in 1981

(1) Take stock of your financial situation—depressing ?
(2) Resolve to do something about it.
(3) Closely review your *privately saleable* items or alternatively your business promotion campaign.
(4) Stop thinking " This will cost me money ". Start thinking " This will make me sane and solvent ".
(5) Dial 837 3311.
(6) Pass your problem on to us and we will devise an *original* succinct and appealing advertisement to put smiles on your face and pounds in your pocket.
(7) You've now joined the ranks of 867,000 people who read our advertisements every day—now you know that CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING WORKS.

Ring Private Advertisements **837 3311**
Trade advertisers see Classified Guide

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,417

ACROSS

1 Surprised when one is " just looking round " ? (6-4).
6 Mary's follower was no 9 (4).
9 Successful wool grower, failed family man (5, 5).
10 Frenchman born again (4).
12 Intimidates the herd . . . (4).
13 . . . making them graze distractedly with such great frequency (9).
15 Front some put before party (8).
16 The White Man—this is his refrain (6).
18 " Getting and spending, we lay waste our —— " (Wordsworth) (6).
20 An insect tormented, e.g. the Greeks and Romans (8).
23 Standard French — English version (9).
24 Myself said to be proprietor of the island (4).
26 How black things look in Kentucky (4).
27 Sort of piano to suit a highly nervous player? (10).
28 One of the things the slithy toves did (4).
29 Tied a cedar carelessly torn up by the roots (10).

DOWN

1 Pass the fish (4).
2 Former Welsh county our idea of charm ? (7).
3 Hiawatha's Gitche Gumee—a better-class water-colour ? (4, 8).
4 May fly uninterruptedly to the Border in record time (8).
5 The Force is 10 up on 28, first half (6).
7 Declared a number behaved *like human beings* (7).
8 Small case of " wind up " ? Try a bright, lively attitude (10).
11 Flag-wagging thus in a civic disturbance . . . (12).
14 . . . but distracting of course, not finding the flag-hole (3-7).
17 Rand fire put out, causing such radiation (5-3).
19 Bar on the bowsprit ; why not the cathead ? (7).
21 Case against Naturist—why stopped ? (7).
22 You're it ! (6).
25 Something 4 can't live to be (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,416

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 7

ANNOUNCEMENTS

709,000 BOOKINGS!?

If you're an hotelier or U.K. holiday home owner, read on—Our successful *holiday* columns are read by 709,000 U.K. holiday goers—nearly half of whom holiday TWICE a year in Great Britain.

Our special feature will run every Saturday for 20 weeks commencing January 3rd and will cover all renowned areas and resorts of England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales and the *Channel* Islands. There are special discounts of up to 25% for long term bookings.

So—whether you specialize in weekend breaks, children's holidays or hedonistically sumptuous fortnights—ring us now, and we'll advise you on the best way to enjoy a prosperous new year !

01-837 3311

THE RED CROSS IS CARE IN ACTION

Red Cross volunteers all over Britain are working every day for the welfare of the community, in hundreds of different ways. Bringing help and comfort to the sick, the handicapped, the frail elderly. Please show that you care too. Help us to go on helping, with [illegible]

CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN

[illegible]

UK HOLIDAYS

TENNIS CAMP INTERNATIONAL AT OXFORD UNIVERSITY

A unique opportunity in July and August 1981 to receive expert coaching on Oxford University's famous tennis courts. FULL BOARD & OWN ROOM in a University college. Social events, excursions, boat trips, [illegible]

SHORT LETS

[illegible]

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

JANUARY SKIING IN SMALL WORLD'S DOLOMITES

[illegible]

NEILSON SKI HOLIDAYS PRICE MELTERS

[illegible]

TEL: (0533) 25075

LOW COST FLIGHTS SPECIALIST

[illegible]

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

GREEK ISLANDS CORFU—CRETE SPETSE

We are pleased to be able to offer a selection of family villas, apartments, hotels and tavernas on perhaps the most memorable islands in the whole Mediterranean. Discover memorable summers for yourself by requesting our 1981 Summer Brochure.

AIRLINK
01-828 1887
(24 hrs.)
9 Wilton Rd., London SW1
ATOL 1188B

A HOLIDAY IN A SECLUDED GREEK ISLAND VILLA

Our 1981 brochure is now out, featuring the best in villa holidays on Corfu, Crete and Paxos.

[illegible]

CORFU VILLAS LTD (T)

[illegible]

KENYA COAST
Limited Availability
31 January, 1981

[illegible]

SKI BLADON LINES
Availability 10/24
January, 7 February

[illegible]

SKI * SKI * SKI * SKI LEARN TO SKI IN ANDORRA

[illegible]

DIAL
402 5284/5
723 0195/6

SKI VERBIER

[illegible]

ENJOY GREECE with SUN CLUB

[illegible]

SKI BARGAINS

[illegible]

THOMSON WINTERSPORTS ATOL 152 BC

FINN-SKI IS FUNSKI

[illegible]

VILLAS/BEACHSIDE APARTMENTS SPAIN

[illegible]

VENTURA HOLIDAYS

[illegible]

EUROPEAN ECONOMY FLIGHTS

[illegible]

QUALITY, RELIABILITY AND HUGE SAVINGS

[illegible]

STOP

[illegible]

BIG SAVES WITH SAM £ £

[illegible]

PAXOS
THE FLOATING GARDEN

[illegible]



FOR £49 RTN
JANUARY SALES

[illegible]

TOPGOLF HOLIDAYS

[illegible]

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

A GREAT HOLIDAY NEEDS GOOD COMPANY

Which is exactly what you'll find on a Sunmed Greek Island holiday. Languid days, stimulating evenings, boring never. 'Phone anytime for the holiday brochure that starts where the others leave off.

SUNMED
455 Fulham Road, London, S.W.10.
Tel : 01-351 2366 (24 hrs.) ABTA ATOL 382B

JANUARY 10/17
SKI OFFER—£143 inc.

Ski Courchevel, Meribel and Verbier, at rock bottom prices inclusive of travel, accom. and 3 meals a day, plus we provide a FREE ski guide service, half-price ski rental and plenty of fun after sunset !

RING NOW SKI MARK WARNER
193 VICTORIA STREET LONDON, S.W.1
01-828 5555 ATOL 1176B

SKI AWAY SOON !

[illegible]

SKI FEBRUARY DATES AT JANUARY PRICES !

[illegible]

CORFU & CRETE VILLAS & WINDMILLS

[illegible]

GENEVA £59

[illegible]

UNITED AIR TRAVEL

[illegible]

FOR SALE

WAPPING WINE BARGAINS TASTE BEFORE YOU BUY

Muscadet les Rochers D' 1979, a fitting choice to compliment your table. Very dry but balanced in acidity with fresh crisp finish. Very special offer price £[illegible].90 per case 12 bottles. Free quantity delivery on 20 cases & over. Delivery in London: 1-2=£ 3+ =£1 (per case). Open days a week, late close Thurs. Ask for full list of incredible bargains.

Great Wapping Wine Co.
60 Wapping High St. E1
Tel: 01-488 3988/9

RESISTA CARPETS SPECIAL OFFERS

[illegible]

MARKSON PIANOS CHOPIN LIST

[illegible]

JANUARY PIANO SALE at the RUSKIN PIANO CO

[illegible]

FOR SALE

[illegible]

(Continued on page

ANNOUNCEMENTS



£1,000's worth of Prizes !!

To be won in the " Boat Show " Competition in our " Holidays afloat " Special 8 page Tabloid Edition appearing January 8th, 1981.

1st Prize :
A Voucher for two, Flotilla Sailing around the Greek Islands
Donated by : Flotilla Sailing Club
Tel. : 01-969 5423
(See them at the Boat Show Stand D-12)

2nd Prize :
A Direction Finder (DDF 300)
Donated by : A.P.T. Electronics Ltd.
Tel. : Reading (0734) 867171
(See it at the Boat Show Stand UO2)

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